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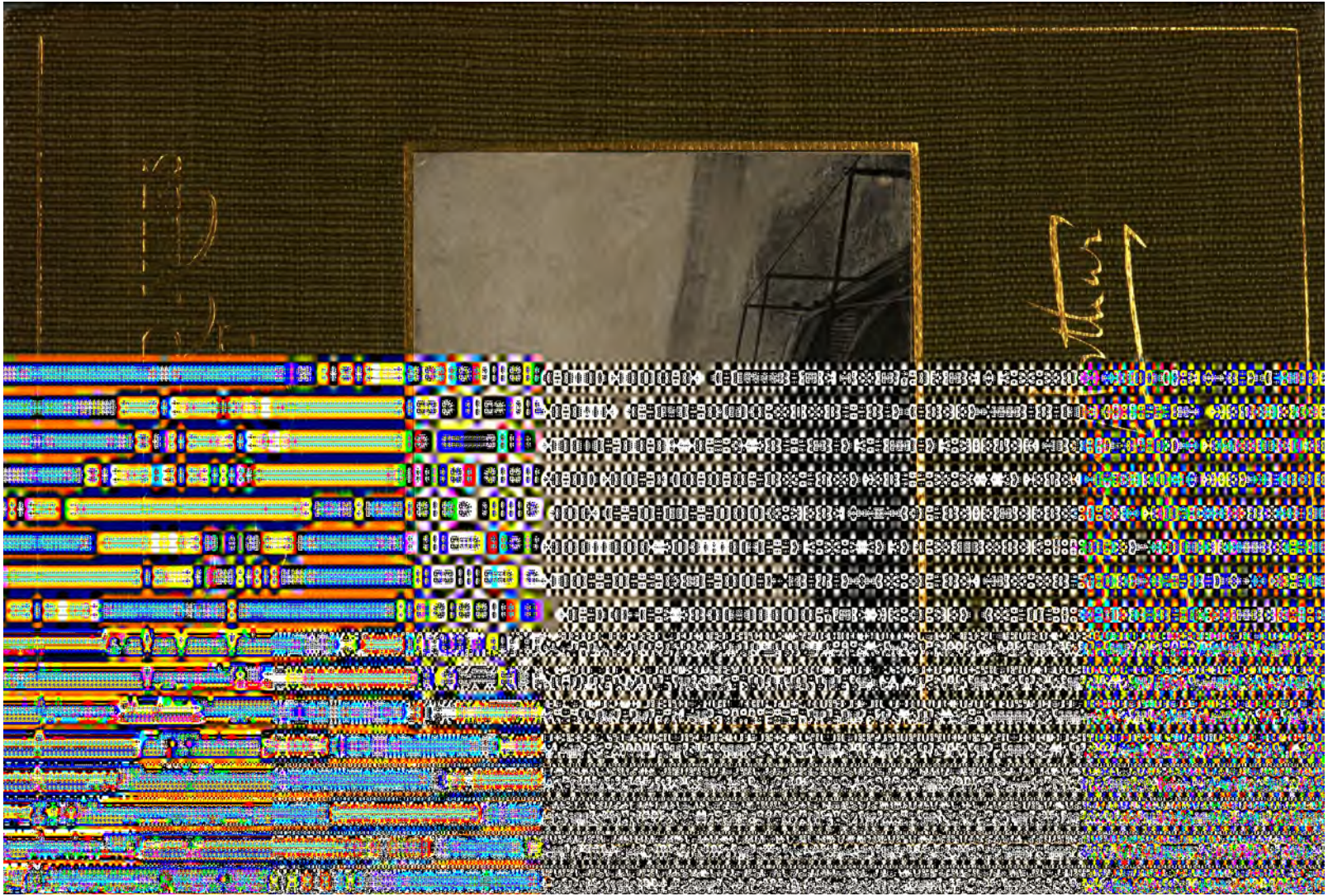

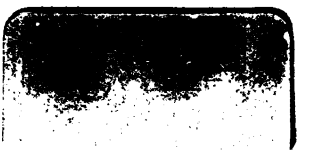

TEN THOUSAND MILES IN A YACHT

Ten Thousand Miles in a Yacht

ROUND THE WEST INDIES AND UP THE AMAZON

BY

RICHARD ARTHUR

INTRODUCTION BY

WILLIAM M. IVINS

NEW YORK

E. P. DUTTON & COMPANY

31 WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET

1906

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DEDICATION

TO COMMODORE E. C. BENEDICT

Permit me, my dear Commodore, to inscribe to you this record of the unique and memorable voyage which your indefatigable love of the sea prompted you to conceive, and your inveterate hospitality inspired you to carry out with such munificent provision for the comfort and pleasure of your fortunate guests.

In turning over the leaves of this volume from time to time, may you, and those who accompanied you on the cruise, be impelled by some suggestion in the pictures, or in a phrase of the text here and there, to fare forth again, in imagination (and with something of the delight of the actual journey) to where you took us in the "Virginia" last winter—across the tropical, sapphire seas, along the palm-fringed, Caribbean island-coasts, and upon the broad bosom of the mighty, marvellous Amazon.

R. A.

New York, January 6th, 1906.

Rotoid oct 1928

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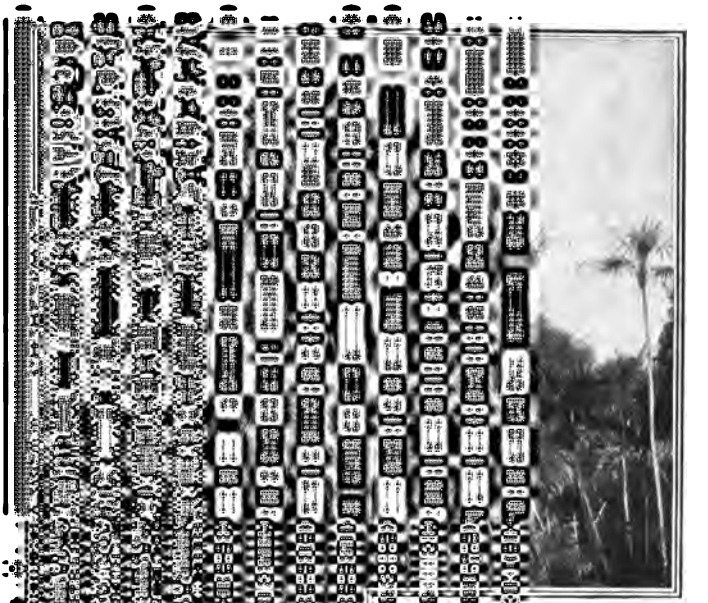

INTRODUCTION

[illegible] great pleas-
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are other places in the world as beautiful as the islands of the Caribbean, there are, nevertheless, none more beautiful, and the man who has had a vision of Dominica and Martinique and Santa Lucia will carry with him to his grave a memory of the glory of the divine revelation in nature which will be a constant charm in hours of happiness and an endless refreshment in days of gloom.

In the cruise of the *Virginia*, these islands, however, were taken *en passant*, going and coming, and were not the objective. Moreover, they have been so frequently described, they are so well known to so many, and some of the literature concerning them is of such peculiar charm, that unless one approaches the subject with an altogether exceptional knowledge, or a very broad sympathy for place and people, as well as poetic insight and an appreciative touch in description, it were better that he should add not a word to the existing literature. But in these pages, Mr. Arthur records the circumstances of a quite unusual experience; so that his book has

an excellent *raison d'être.* Moreover, he has not attempted to rival former writers by going into detailed and intimate description, but has wisely confined himself to relating the incidents of the voyage and to giving rapid, impressionistic little pictures of the places touched at by the yacht.

To him who has visited the Lesser Antilles, and even more seriously to him who has not, I recommend the reading of Lafcadio Hearn's book on Martinique and the other islands. It was in this that he first showed that wonderful capacity for putting atmosphere and color into words that subsequently made his books on Japan so altogether unique. To anyone who is interested in Mr. Arthur's little story, I should say, if it stimulates you to a desire for more, turn to Lafcadio Hearn, and all who do so will, I know, thank me for the suggestion, even though they know the book already, for it may be read many times and always with more wonder than before at the rare skill of the author.

But, as I have said, these islands in our Amer-

ican Mediterranean were taken in passage, whereas the Amazon was the object of the adventurous longing of a party, all but two of whom (who already knew it well) visited it with a yearning for the sight of El Dorado and of the yellow "Sweet Water Sea," such as was felt in England and in Spain and in Italy and in France hundreds of years ago, when the discoveries of Pinzon and Cabral and Vespucci first came within the ken of men, and when the world of culture and of progress, led thereto by Americus himself, ventured the fine guess that Brazil was the seat of Paradise and the Valley of the Amazon the very Garden of Eden.

From the day that the child first begins the study of geography and learns of the Great River, his mind is stirred by imaginings of this, one of the greatest of the world's wonders, and then, as he grows in years, there comes to him in his reading and in story strange tales from this far-away land, unlike any other, where the men and the birds and the beasts, the skies and the stars, the waters and the

flowers and the trees, are all unlike any that he has known. Is it strange then that in childhood lads should dream of a visit to, and that old men should hope to see, before the burden of life be lifted, the country that Raleigh knew as El Dorado, that Americus claimed was the true Garden of Eden, and that Captain Mayne Reid and Jules Verne pictured as a land of romance, whose story, like Macbeth, had murdered sleep, but so differently and so delightfully?

How vividly there comes back to me now the memory of that summer day in the middle '60's, when the one object of my boyish worship, Professor C. Fred Hartt, came home from his Amazon journey and asked me to help him unpack and arrange his specimens! With what joy I gave up the first half of my vacation! Then, as a lad, I caught the yearning and fever for the Great River as Hartt had had it from Agassiz and Agassiz from Spix and Martius, almost as if it had come to me by direct descent —and it is still unsatisfied, for never yet have I been able, in all of my four visits, to do there

what I have wanted to do and what I still want to do, and I have *saudades*, sweet longings for and memories of it, which will never be satisfied now, for the years creep on and the heart of the wilderness is no place for those who have passed the floodtide of life. As for my master, he died pursuing the charm of Brazil, as brave a mind, as true a soul, as gentle a heart as science or chivalry has known.

The *Virginia* was a bare thirty days on the Great River—long enough to realize the physical aspect of the country of the Amazonian basin, with its new and strange flora, of some, at least of the fauna, of the people and of the cities. It was long enough for a superficial glance, long enough to taste and enjoy the hospitality of the warm-hearted and open-handed Brazilians, of these people of simple taste and exquisite gentleness and sympathy, but not long enough to get into real touch with their lives, their language, their literature, their politics, their national aspirations, their customs, their folk lore or their civilization. That is only pos-

sible to one who knows their tongue, who knows their history, who knows their literature, and who has not only lived long among them, but lived sympathetically and with an insatiable curiosity. This is the reason why we have in English no book or books through which the reader may become intimately acquainted with Brazil and the Brazilians, and, above all, with those of the Amazon Valley. The only English books of any value that we have were written by scientific men or mere curious travellers, not one of whom, so far as I am aware, knew thoroughly the tongue, the history, the literature or the people. While some of these books, like those of Bates and Wallace and Mrs. Agassiz, have real value, they are of little human interest, and I know of no greater desideratum in the way of a book than just such a volume as the very brilliant Oliveiro de Lima, late Brazilian Minister to the United States, has written of our own country—which is as thorough and as fine in its way as even Mr. Bryce's "American Commonwealth."

It thus happens that the casual visitor to the Amazon has no way to prepare himself for a perfectly appreciative understanding of what he is about to see, and so must come away with a memory only of that which is patent to the eye—wide open, to be sure, but, nevertheless, necessarily far from clairvoyant.

Instead of a preface I might write a book, and I am strongly tempted to do so, telling of the things Brazilian that I have come to know through residence and travel and study; but in that case I should change places with Mr. Arthur and ask him to permit me to use his sketch as a preface. Such, however, is not the design of this little volume; yet I hope one of these days to find time in a very busy life to say something concerning Brazil which may be of value and, I hope, of charm, to Northern readers.

But I may now say this to those who may hereafter visit the Great River and into whose hands this book may fall: that if they come away from it only with a knowledge of the two

great cities of Pará and Manáos, they will leave it with no more substantial knowledge than that of the European traveller who should judge of the United States by a few days spent at the Waldorf and at the Auditorium Annex, with Niagara Falls seen in passing. The two Amazonian cities have many of the aspects of most recent modernity, although in their outskirts and suburbs may be seen some slight indications of the manner of life lived by the people of the country on the river banks, on the edges of the *igarapés*, on the little interior clearings, or in the quaint villages of only a few hundred souls, or in the heart of the forest on the *seringals*. In point of culture, habit of life, family organization and tradition, religious practice and religious legend, in the simple matter of clothing, of the organization of the home, of the table, and of the life of the day and of the night, these non-city dwellers who constitute the race are so unlike ourselves that it is doubtful even if they and we should ever be able thoroughly to understand each other.

To begin with, the race is practically indigenous, Indian crossed by Negro and Portuguese, due to the fact that during the first two hundred years of colonial life there came few women from abroad, and the race was begotten of the crossing of European fathers with Indian or Negro mothers, and then the re-crossing of these again, until the classification of the several amalgams has come to be one of the crucial problems of the ethnologist.

The same causes which produced the race have produced the religion of the race, the polytheistic Catholicism, reaching back into primitive tradition and indigenous mythology, and so unlike our own notions as not to be recognizable by us as Christianity at all, except so far as we recognize a certain ceremonial which has been inherited from the Latin Church and which, with the peculiar phase that Brazilian Catholicism has taken on, is not now even disapproved at Rome. I said polytheism, because outside of the great cities, and even among the common people inside these cities,

the people have no conception of a triune God. They never think in terms of one omniscient and omnipotent, supreme God, much less in terms of such a God expressed in the form of triunity. Their gods are as numerous as those of Olympus, but they are the saints; and the most childish, the most charming and always the most credulous saint worship is that of the illiterate native in this land where it is always afternoon, who is ever thoughtless of to-morrow and whose care for life is no more serious than was that of Father Adam in Paradise. It is a lazy world and an easy world, and the people—always, be it understood, outside of the great cities—live and think and worship more like children than like men.

Within the cities, life is very different. Among the rich, the modern spirit is everywhere manifest. Here the men generally, having abandoned Catholicism, have become Positivists, and the religion is left to the *frades* and the women and the poorer classes. It suffices admirably for the life of the race, because it is a

religion of cheerfulness, not begotten of logic or contention, but corresponding very perfectly to the psychological need of the people.

Outside of the great cities, it may be said that the meaning of the word "politics" is unknown. Both States, Pará and Amazonas, enjoy a constitutional form of government, but the electorate is small, and of this small electorate only a minor part take any active interest in the matter of government, and it so happens that the policies of both States fall, by natural process, into the hands of those best equipped to understand and direct them, that is to say, a few of the leading merchants and the members of the learned professions, the lawyers and the doctors and the engineers. It is due to this fact, and to the fact that the real political masters of the country are so in advance of the ultimate constituency, that we so frequently see in the great cities evidence of an attempt to secure a civilization for which the people themselves are not yet ready. But if a fault, this is certainly one in the right and not in the wrong direction.

INTRODUCTION

The Brazilian race as a whole has come to be quite a new and distinct people in the world. It is quite as well marked as, let me say, the Spanish or the French or the Italian, and, I may even add, the English. Our people of the United States have as yet by no means been brought into such a degree of synthetic racial unity as the people of Brazil, but the Brazilians are infinitely more unlike the Portuguese, although they speak their tongue, than the people of the United States, taken as a whole, are unlike the English, for the predominant strain is Indian and Negro, while the predominant culture is Portuguese, chastened by the more primitive culture of the other races. This remark, however, has no relation to the intellectual élite of the great cities, such as Rio Janeiro, São Paulo, Bahia, Pernambuco, Pará, and Manáos, who are citizens of the world, abreast of the most modern thought.

And so Brazil possesses a literature, based upon racial tradition, but woven into shape of poem or story, wholly unlike any other litera-

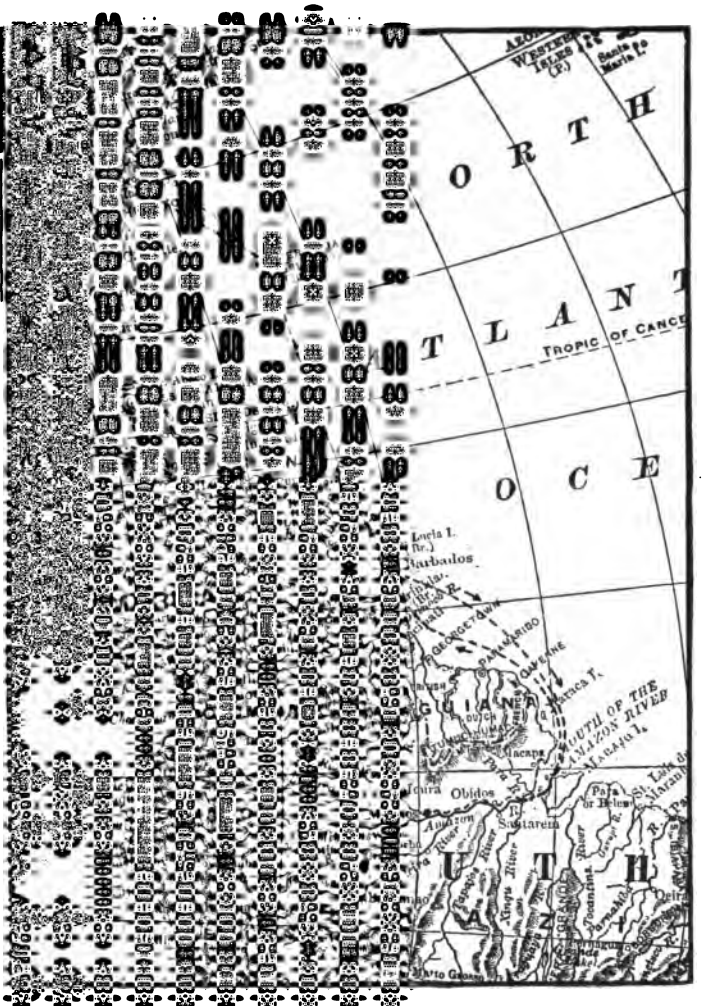
ture in Christendom, and which, to those who know it, is as beautiful as any other whatsoever, even if not as rich. It is not Portuguese, that is to say, the Portuguese of Lisbon. The Brazilian tongue, borrowing largely from Guarani, Tupi, and the Negro dialects, with the accents and the phrasing sharpened here and softened there, has grown to be as unlike the Portuguese of Portugal as the speech of the Alabama backwoodsman is unlike that of London or Edinburgh.

But one who has learned the tongue, who has sung its native strains, who has dreamt under the great trees and the blue skies, in the verse of some of the rarest of poets, who has followed the story of desperate adventure and of local chivalry, who has sat at night under the stars that seem infinitely farther away than in our northern sky, or under the Indian thatch, and heard the tales of the countryside,—to such a one there comes a feeling, once he has departed from the land of beauty and of dreams, that can be likened only to the feeling of him who

"hears the East a-calling," calling endlessly for his return. So the South calls to the men who know it, and in our hearts there is borne an insatiable homesickness for the great Palm Land.

Wm H. Ohing

NEW YORK, *January 6th, 1906.*



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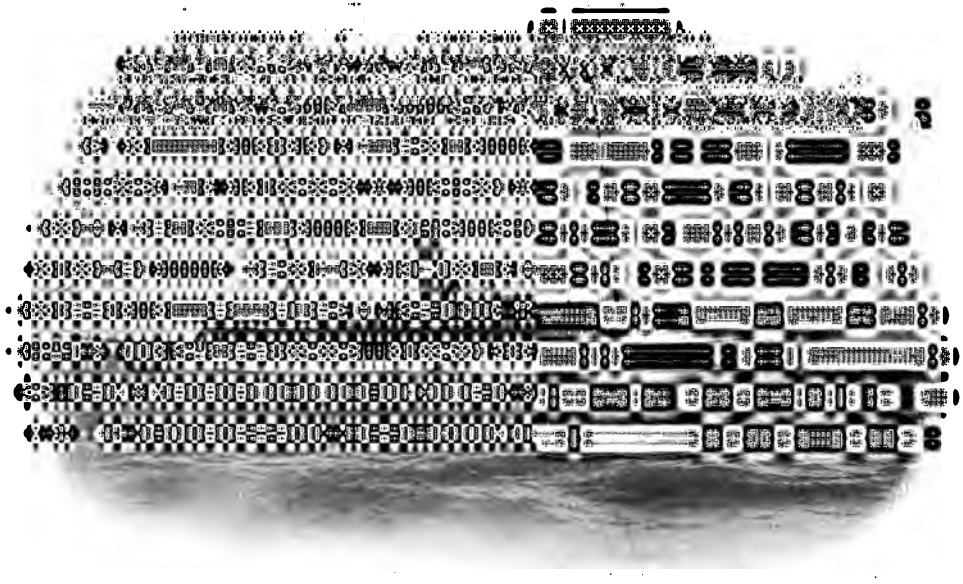
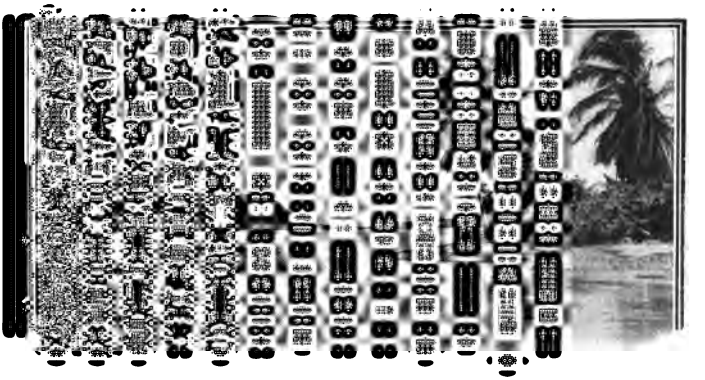


THE STEAM YACHT "VIRGINIA"



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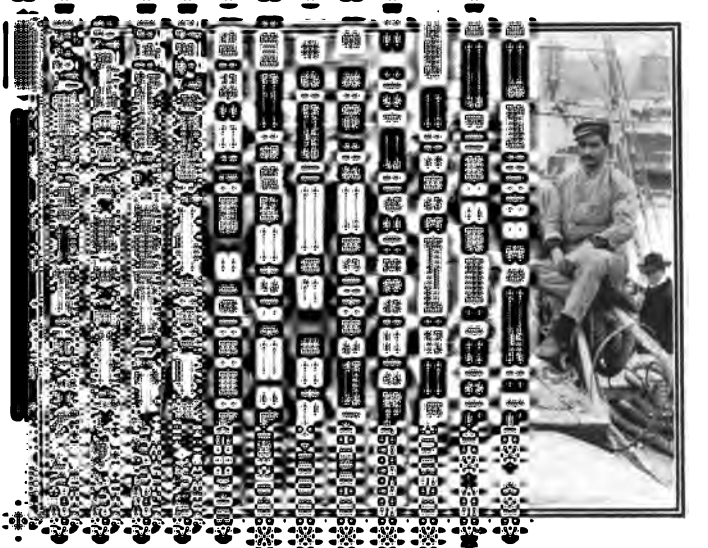

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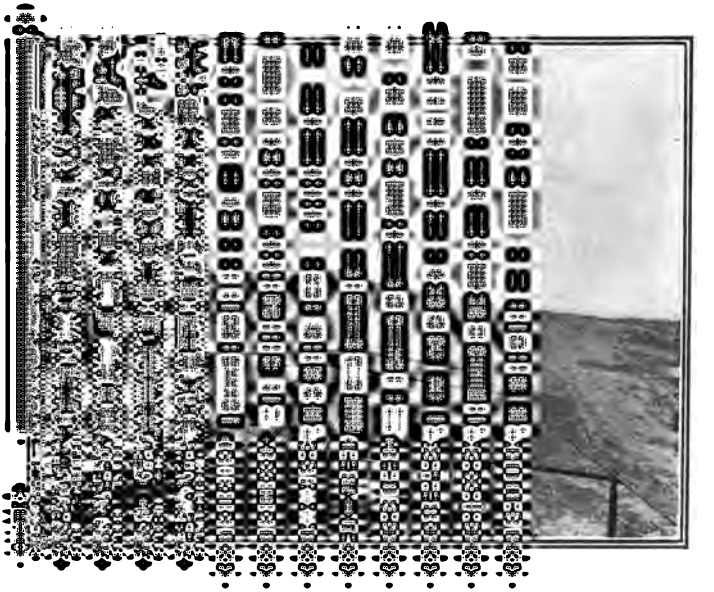
[illegible] Pacifistian. "Ever [illegible] intense desire [illegible]

"Come with me, then," urged the lawyer.

"By the Great Horn Spoon," replied the yachtsman, with sudden decision, "I will; but on one condition—that you allow me to come as your host. I understand the hotels in Northern Brazil are abominable, so I'll bring along a hotel that we can live in with comfort."

He explained that he would charter a yacht—his own not being quite suitable for such a voyage—and make up a party. As nearly as possible, dates and an itinerary were fixed there and then, and this was how it came about that, on the afternoon of November 15th, the *Virginia*, with a party of ten men and a lad, and a crew of thirty-three officers and men, steamed out of New York harbor and turned her bow toward the equator.

The party consisted of the genial host, Commodore E. C. Benedict, Mr. W. M. Ivins, Mr. E. M. Backus, Mr. C. Keep, Mr. L. Huntington, Mr. J. Howard Ford, Mr. Russell Colt, Mr. Charles Hastings, Dr. J. Gaines, Master M. Truesdale, and the writer of this chronicle.



[illegible] STORM

[illegible] our setting [illegible] swept the West [illegible] of Mexico [illegible] had now [illegible] sea was still [illegible]

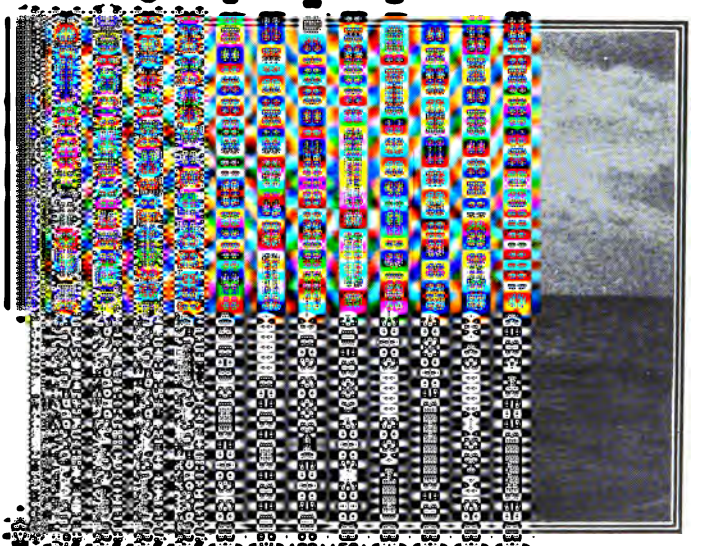
[illegible] *Virginia* was at

once put to a fair test, and she behaved so well that we immediately gained a confidence in her that we never lost during the entire cruise. We afterwards found that though, on account of her light draft and her extensive deck houses, she had a decided predilection for rolling considerably in light seas, she always conducted herself gallantly and soberly in rough water, and never bumped or jerked, or raced her propeller.

We ran before the wind at about twelve knots, reaching the Bermudas in less than two and a half days without any incident worthy of note, except the encounter, right in our path, of a derelict lumber schooner, waterlogged and abandoned. Fortunately, we came across her just before dark. Had it been a couple of hours later, we might very well have rammed her amidships, as she lay exactly at right angles across the line of our course, and though in her condition such a ramming would not have mattered very much to her, it would have been quite an unpleasant episode for us, and would further have annoyed us, inasmuch as it would have

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] report, pub-
[illegible] days after

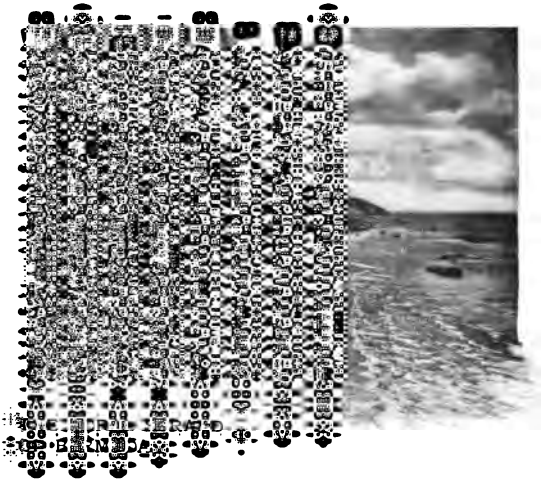


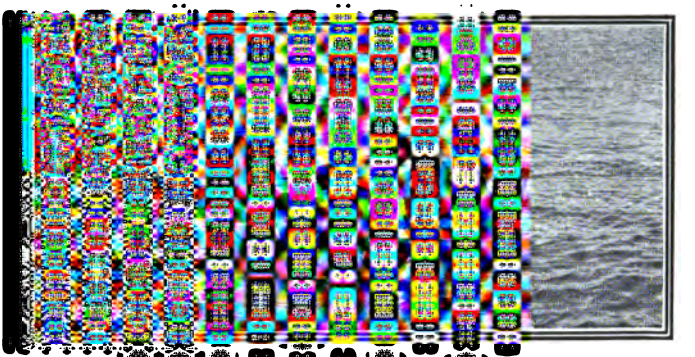
PERFECT

[illegible] lost with all
[illegible]

[illegible] of the dere-
[illegible] doned. The
[illegible] and her decks
[illegible] ts had gone,

[illegible] escaped. Shortly [illegible] make another sailing [illegible] and laboring along [illegible] take care of herself [illegible]





[illegible] NDS

[illegible] Bermuda in [illegible] try to the [illegible] difficult, we [illegible] stern shore [illegible] a pilot and [illegible] al reefs into [illegible]

[illegible] t days, driv- [illegible] and delight- [illegible] ral beauties, [illegible] picturesque, [illegible] w hours be- [illegible] heavy win- [illegible] ttest summer [illegible] ry of diving

from the yacht into the clear, tepid waters of the harbor.

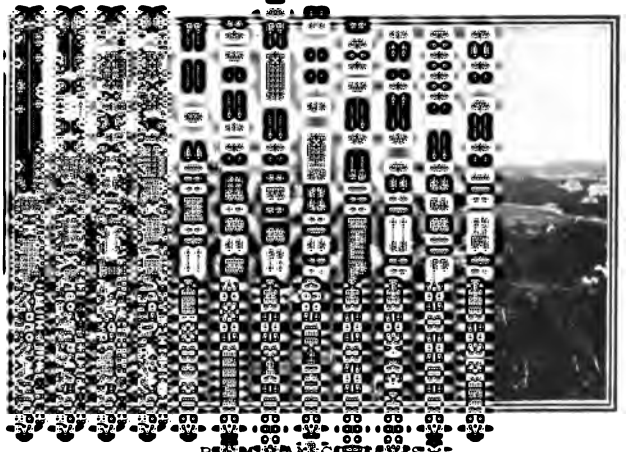
The Bermudas, viewed from the ocean as one approaches them, are not very impressive, and the visitor is therefore all the more delighted with the richness and variety of vegetation and scenery which, upon closer acquaintance, they reveal to him.

The islands are of coral formation, and the land is low-lying, presenting to the observer out on the ocean a flat and bare appearance. But as you pass through the shoals and into the harbor, innumerable wooded valleys and bays and hillsides covered with thick-foliaged shrubs and trees, disclose themselves, and everywhere brilliant-white little coralline houses stand out gayly from the dark green of the vegetation, making a most pleasing picture.

The largest island is nowhere more than three miles in breadth, and the highest hill is only 250 feet above the level of the sea. The ocean, or some arm of it, is therefore visible from almost every hillock, and the water is generally tossed

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] strong, per-
[illegible] round the
[illegible] have had



[illegible] alluded to
[illegible] the islands
[illegible] creamy-peace-
[illegible] wish. Just
[illegible] Moore, who
[illegible] wrote a poem
[illegible] tle isolated

land. Some of his lines will serve to express our feelings on landing there quite as well as they did his:—

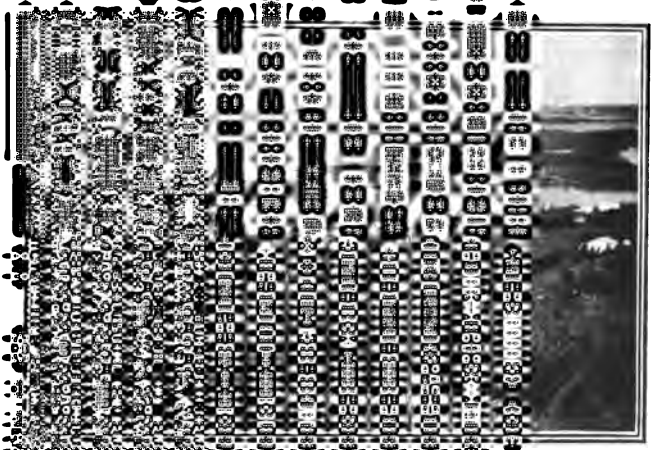
> ". . . . . When the zephyrs bland
> Floated our bark to this enchanted land—
> These leafy isles upon the ocean thrown,
> Like studs of emerald o'er a silver zone,—
> Not all the charm that ethnic fancy gave
> To blessed arbors o'er the western wave,
> Could make a dream more soothing or sublime."

The group of islands composing the Bermudas is twenty-five miles in length, and consists of one hundred islands, besides a considerable number of islets, many of which are submerged at high tide. The main islands are all connected by bridges.

Science has not yet been able definitely to determine what the geological formation is which constitutes the basis of the coral superstructure of the Bermudas; but the isolation of the islands in the wastes of the North Atlantic Ocean suggests the idea of mountain peaks, the relic of some prehistoric continent, peaks which, though submerged, were yet near enough to the surface

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] build their [illegible], it is sup- [illegible] by some [illegible] when fresh



[illegible]

[illegible] decomposed [illegible]

[illegible] fruit-pro- [illegible] has been [illegible] mainly given [illegible] tomatoes [illegible] and the

rose" is also a land of innumerable other flowers. The passion-flower, the violet, the narcissus, the Bourgainvillia creeper, the wistaria, the geranium, the heliotrope and the verbena spring up everywhere, and the morning glory and many other flowers bloom all the year round.

This little country has a population of about 18,000, of which number only 6,500 are Whites.

Our visit, we were told, was too early to enable us to see the country at its best and gayest, the social season not having begun, and the vegetation not being in its most attractive condition. There is little difference here, however, between summer and winter. Though only forty-eight hours' sail from New York, the islands really enjoy a perpetual summer. Thanks to the influence of the Gulf Stream, the climate is continually sub-tropical, and yet the temperature is rarely high enough to be oppressive. The thermometer does not go above 86, and the nights are cool and breezy. The air is pure and suave, and malaria is unknown.

The Bermudan houses are of simple but pic-

[illegible] A YACHT

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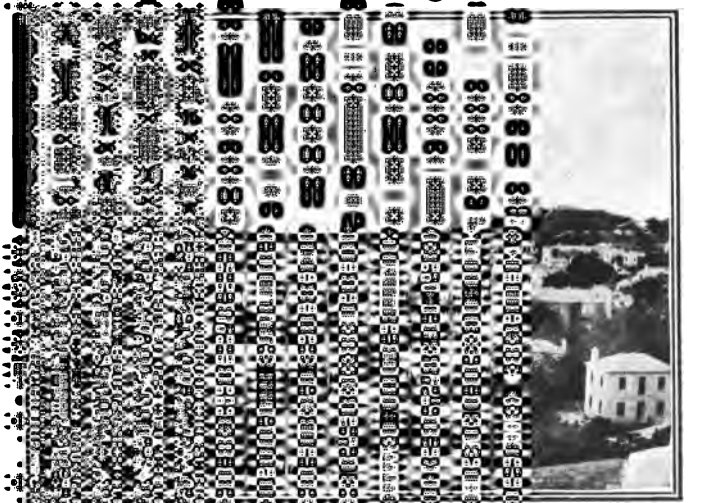
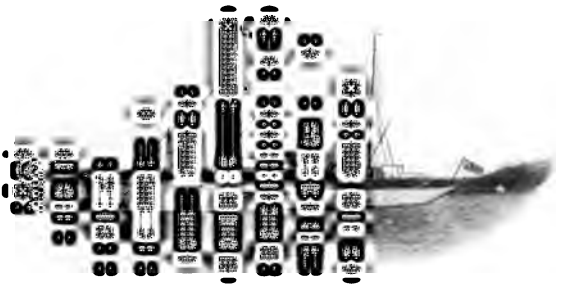
[illegible] s, and they
[illegible] rounded as



[illegible] foliage of
[illegible] the ubiquit-
[illegible] ental shrubs
[illegible] and very in
[illegible] the best of



THE LESSER ANTILLES

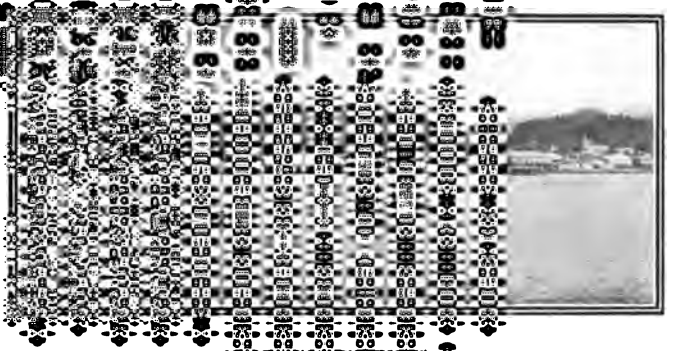
[illegible] pleasant uneventful [illegible] sight of the first of [illegible] little island of [illegible] saw the first of the [illegible] Then we passed in [illegible] ipses of, the islands [illegible] Bartholomew, St. Eustatius, [illegible] Nevis, Antigua, Montserrat, Guadeloupe and Marie Galante.

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible]

[illegible] sailed along [illegible] u, the little [illegible] way down [illegible]

[illegible] inica is the



[illegible]

[illegible] lles. From [illegible] ed yards off [illegible] awaiting the [illegible] ore landing, [illegible] —even those [illegible] pical beauty

and grandeur before—at the clear, sapphire-blue water lapping lazily on the palm-fringed shore, the dense, dark-green and light-green foliage of the near slopes, the darker density of the forest on the acclivitous sharp-ridged mountains beyond, and the fine, clear-cut, culminating peaks, each capped with a little, separate, fleecy cloud.

Bermuda had pleased us with its verdure and its sunny atmosphere; but we now recognized that Bermuda was not tropical, that its beauty was tame in comparison with this grandeur and rank tropical growth, and that its light was dull when compared with the intense luminosity of this ethereal atmosphere.

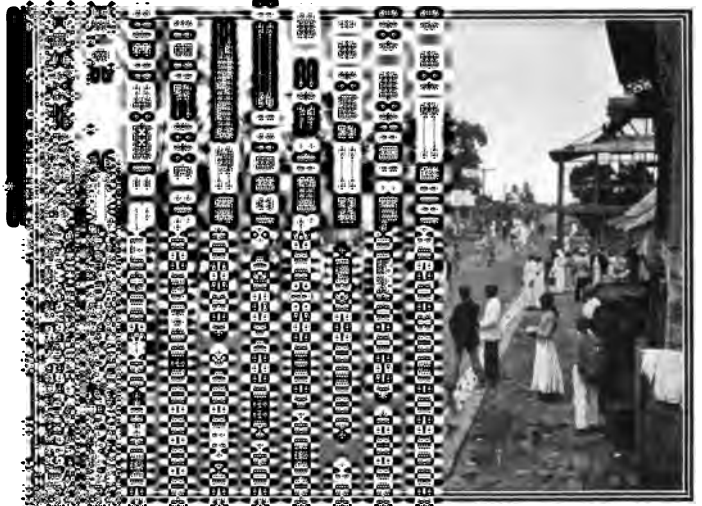
We were all impatient to get ashore and make intimate acquaintance with these scenes, which so fascinated us at a distance. But we lingered awhile to watch the numerous young negroes, who had come alongside the yacht, sporting in the water like amphibians and diving for the coins which we threw to them.

"God made the country," it has been said, "and man made the town." Here in Dominica,

man's part of the work, that of town-making, does not amount to very much. As a town, Roseau is about as primitive a place as one could find on the highways or byways of the Western seas. To the observer out in the harbor, it presents a low, stone bulwark and a line of yellow-white, plaster buildings of unequal height, plain and unprepossessing. These are the stores and native business houses. Further inland one catches a glimpse of diminutive lath-houses, thatched with palm-leaves. At one end of the town, on a slight eminence, are half seen, half divined, several buildings of more attractive appearance, well-made white villas and bungalows, with charming gardens and a profusion of shrubs, palms, and creepers. These are the Governor's residence and the official buildings.

On landing, we found the town a great deal more extensive than it had seemed from the harbor, from which view-point the greater part of it is hidden by some elevated ground and by the trees and shrubs which fill every vacant space. Walking in these narrow little streets

[illegible] y, particularly one [illegible] eriences a strange [illegible] ped, like Gulliver, [illegible] ome sort of supe-



[illegible] DOMINICA

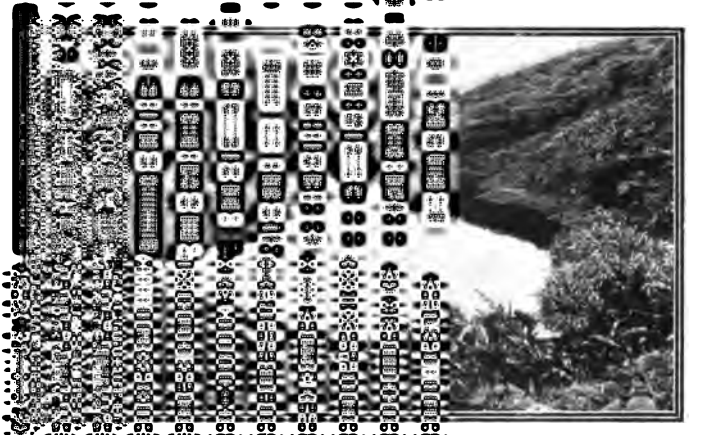
[illegible] to build its own [illegible] rimitive are these [illegible], windowless habi-

[illegible] houses of pigmies,

the inhabitants are strong, well-built people. There are 28,000 on the island, and some 8,000 in the town of Roseau. Almost the entire population is of Negro race, there being only a few hundred Whites—English settlers, who live mostly on their plantations up on the rich-soiled plateau or on the hillsides of the interior.

Dominica is a British colony, and its affairs are administered with the usual efficiency of British Colonial government. But somehow it has not advanced and developed, as most other British colonies have done, in proportion to its possibilities. Nature has endowed few countries with more fertility, but beyond the production of limes and a small amount of cacao and sugar, man has here done hardly anything to turn the richness of the soil to his use and profit. Yet the climate is healthy, and on the plateau and hills it is even delightful and exhilarating. The great drawback to cultivation is the difficulty of securing reliable and continuous labor. The native Negroes, who constitute nearly the entire population, are not under the necessity of doing much

[illegible] h in the sea near [illegible] and foods to their [illegible] ndance. The cli- [illegible] little in the way



A MO[illegible] INICA

[illegible] ey have no ambi- [illegible] of existence. So [illegible] if an enterprising [illegible] nd pastures new, [illegible] of the island, here [illegible] uld yield tenfold, [illegible].

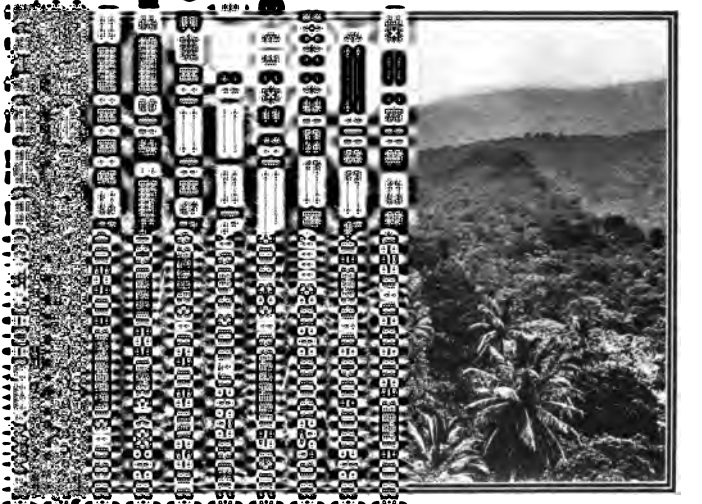
The Negroes speak a curious lingo, a sort of French *patois*, originally picked up from the French settlers in the Antilles. They have softened the consonants, clipped the original words often beyond recognition, and done away with inflections and such grammatical frills and flourishes. But the young generation have all had two or three years' schooling, and speak English fairly well, besides their own lingo.

The most striking feature of the town of Roseau is its Botanical Garden, an extensive park-like enclosure which would do honor to any country anywhere in the world. It is kept in perfect condition and contains fine specimens of tropical shrubs and trees not only from the countries of the Western Hemisphere, but from the Orient as well. We were curious to know why such a fine and apparently expensive garden had been established and how it was kept up in such a poor town as Roseau, and we learnt that it had been largely developed by exchanges with and through the famous gardens at Kew, London, and that it is entirely self-supporting,

[illegible] IN A YACHT

[illegible] ts and seeds to cul- [illegible] ner islands.

[illegible] able sensations ex- [illegible] a, there were two at



[illegible] DOMINICA

[illegible] hall long remember. [illegible] e other mental; the [illegible] rom the yacht and [illegible] at looked like a sea [illegible] ond was the quiet

emotion of watching the approach of night over the island. The sun sank, a crimson globe, into the indigo sea, and, disappearing, threw up a flush of delicate orange and violet along the Western horizon and a faint pink glow to the arch of the firmament. The hills of Dominica on our east, but a few moments before luminously verdant, darkened to a sombre green, then to a vague black from which the green had vanished. And now a profound peace and a brooding melancholy fell upon the land from shore to peak. The glow of the atmosphere went out; stars began to twinkle here and there in the heavens; the sea became dim and shadowy. Now the hills grew into an obscure, slumbering mass. Far up the mountain side gleamed one lone light. Here and there a lamp flickered in the town. The tropic day was done.

Dominica is 30 miles long and has an average width of 12 miles. Its area is 290 square miles. The majestic mountain Morne Diablotin rises to a height of 5,314 feet, and is the most elevated peak in the Lesser Antilles.

[illegible] ceeded South along [illegible] ot a fine panoramic [illegible] stern slope of this [illegible]

[illegible] OF MARTINIQUE

MARTINIQUE

Then followed a couple of hours of open sea and we reached the northern extremity of Martinique, a few miles from which Mont Pelée is situated.

Almost immediately the effects of the great upheaval of May 8th, 1902, were manifest to us. The northward-facing slope of the island is green and forest-clad, like Dominica, which we had just left. But immediately beyond begins the devastation and the desolation.

And *what* a devastation, *what* a desolation! All the northern part of the island slopes up, first gradually from the sea, then steeply and more steeply to the peak of Mont Pelée, which attains a height of about 5,000 feet. And all this sloping country (except here and there a northward-facing valley)—thousands of acres in extent—is stripped of its once gorgeous jungle, left as bare of vegetation as a cliff of rock, and covered to a depth of many feet with mud and

dust from the exploded volcano. Along the shore the sea has cut a sharp line, and the depth of the deposit can be plainly seen. Looking at this, one cannot but marvel at the amount of mud and dust and scoria—millions of tons—that must have issued from the crater of the volcano on the day of the eruption. When we were at Barbados a day or two later, we were told that two inches of dust had fallen on that island on the day of the eruption—and Barbados is some 150 miles distant from Mont Pelée.

Three years ago Martinique was as densely wooded as Dominica or Santa Lucia. Many writers—among them the late Lafcadio Hearn in his admirable "Two Years in the French West Indies"—have applied their most subtle literary powers to its description, and found the resources of their language and art all too meagre to enable them adequately to render the forest which clothed the slope from the sea to the summit of Mont Pelée and the range which extends along the island. Now for many miles, as I have said, the land is stripped bare

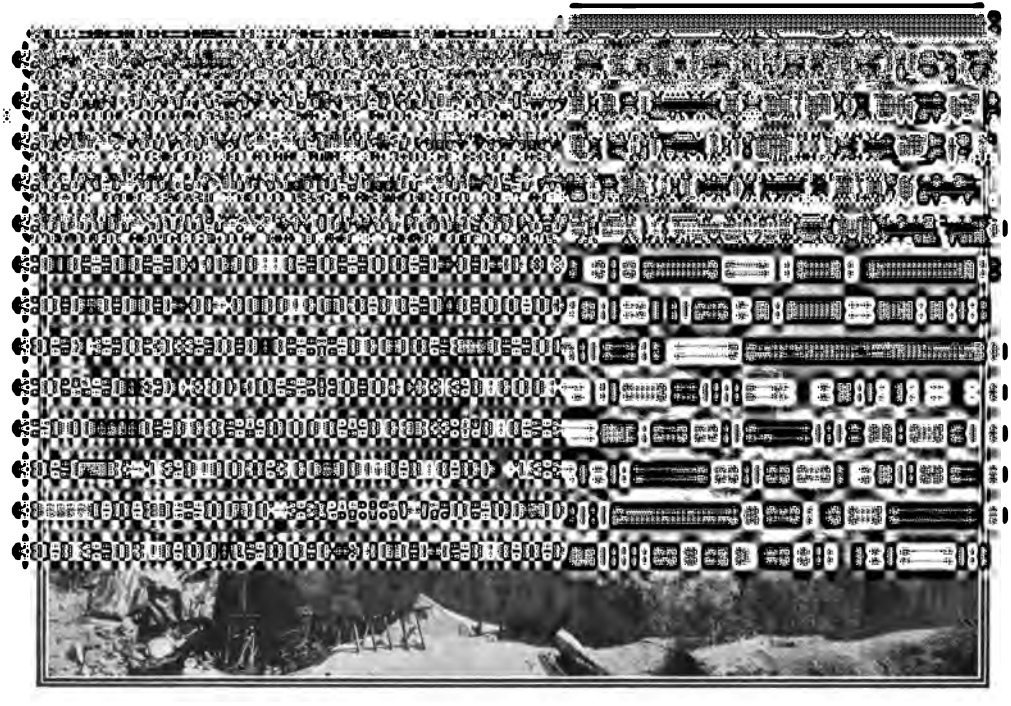
of vegetation. Thousands of acres are absolutely nude, not so much as a blade of grass showing anywhere on them. But some miles away from the peak the land is beginning to vest itself in green again, particularly in the ravines and valleys. The site of St. Pierre, the once gay and busy city, whose 30,000 souls perished in a few minutes, is as sad a scene to look upon as one could well imagine. A large area of the town is completely wiped out; on it there is nothing to indicate that habitations of men ever stood there. Along the harbor front, where the business houses and finer edifices were situated, there is now only a conglomeration of stumps of houses, so to speak, and the whole place suggests a vast ruined cemetery of some race of Titans, with giant tombstones broken, jagged and jumbled. Of the wharves and harbor bulwarks there is hardly a trace left, and the streets are entirely obliterated, buried ten or twelve feet deep in dry mud and dust.

Truly this is a sight to inspire the observer with awe and wonder and pity. The heart sinks and

the throat tightens as the eye wanders over these charred and blasted remains and the imagination dwells on the simultaneous death agonies of the 30,000 men, women and children as they drew into their lungs the asphyxiating gases from the volcano and felt the fury-flood rise round them on that fearful May morning when the mountain belched forth its fiery vomit.

We did not land at the ruined city until next day, as we were obliged to go to Fort de France to get a permit.

Early next morning, we steamed back to St. Pierre and went ashore, spending a couple of hours wandering among the ruins. We picked up many an interesting souvenir and acquired others from the young Negroes who come here from the surrounding country to rummage for treasures. Skulls and parts of skeletons were found in abundance. On getting back to the yacht, those of us who had done the most poking and digging were so dust-begrimed that we were constrained to doff our clothes and plunge



RUINS, ST. PIERRE, MARTINIQUE

[illegible] A YACHT

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[illegible] ds forth a

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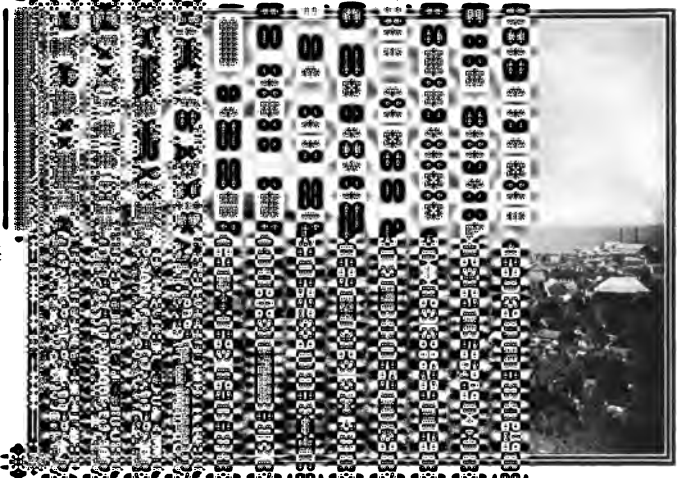


[illegible] cloud, which

[illegible] the ruined

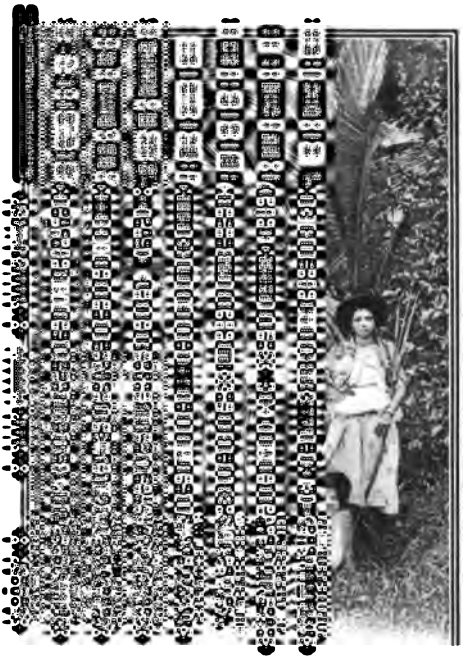
[illegible] e seen, and

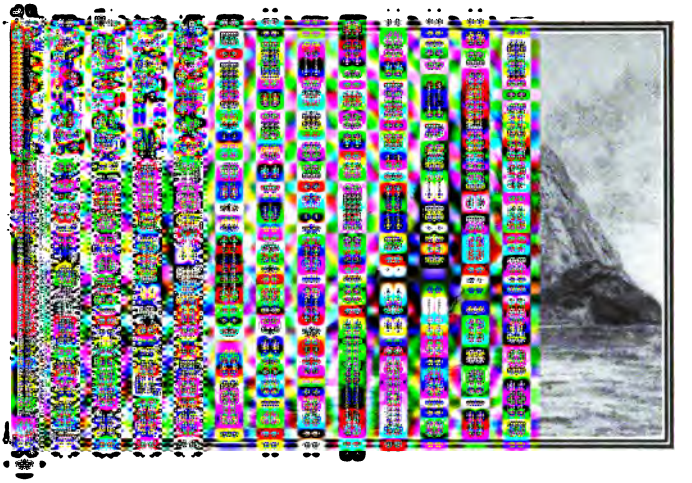
[illegible] ld of sugar-

[illegible] s. For the

[illegible] IN A YACHT

[illegible] dwelling within [illegible], however, eleven [illegible], is still densely [illegible] and fairly prosper-





MARTINIQUE.

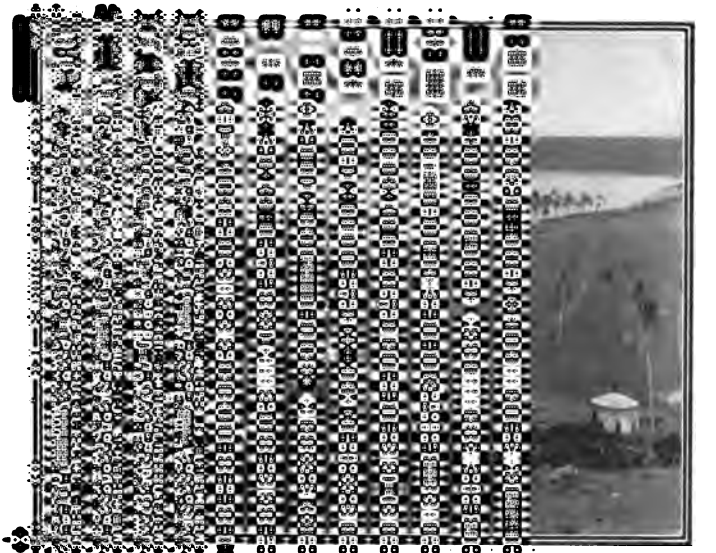
[illegible] St. Pierre [illegible] de France [illegible] another [illegible] beautiful [illegible] along its [illegible] panoramic [illegible] majestic [illegible] the sea-line, [illegible] culminating

peaks; of shady valleys with little settlements peeping out of palm-groves near the shore; of a plantation here and there on the hillside; and, everywhere else, of the dense, dark-green tropical forest. The sea was incredibly clear and blue, and sea and land alike were bathed in an indescribable luminosity. Santa Lucia has some beautiful bays which would make splendid harbors, were they needed. Castries is a fine port and seems to serve all present requirements. The island is very fertile, but, like Dominica, it is in a backward state, for the same reasons and for the additional one, it is said, that the *fer de lance*, a deadly little snake, is an active denizen of the forest of this island.

As we were nearing the southern end of Santa Lucia something went wrong with our steering gear and we were obliged to lie to for an hour. Very fortunately, this happened just as we came to the Pitons, the two famous cone-shaped peaks which rise sheer from the sea to a height of respectively 2,715 and 2,500 feet, and we had the good luck of seeing them with the

[illegible] A YACHT [illegible] their pre- [illegible]

[illegible] se, and we [illegible] wake with- [illegible]



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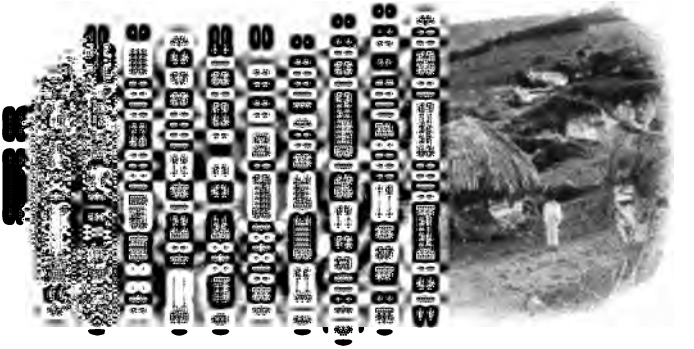
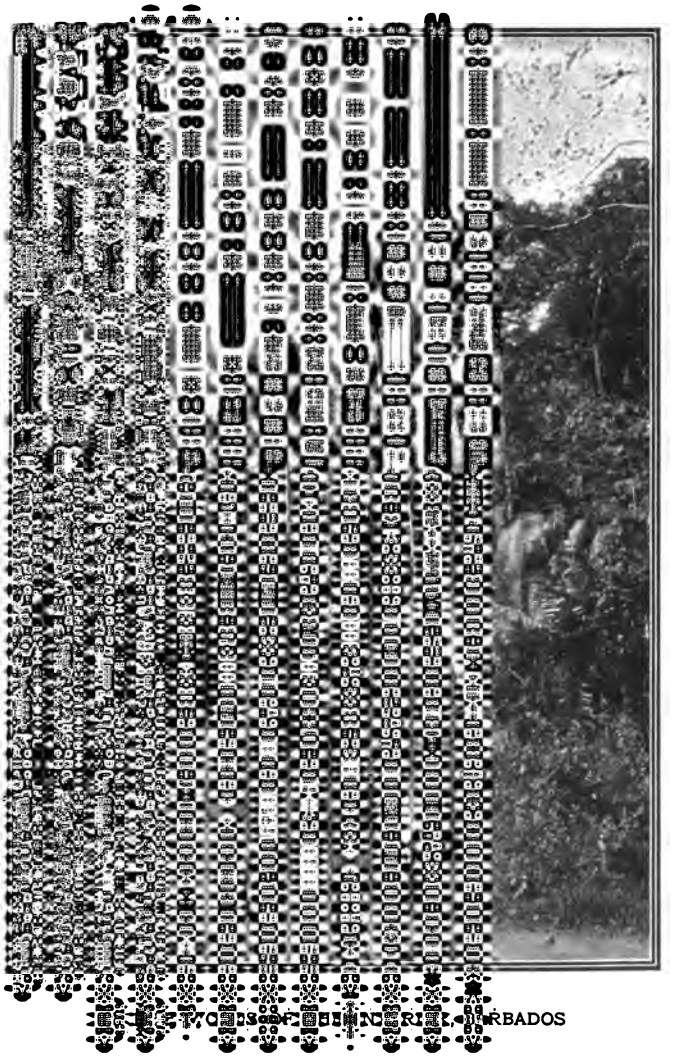


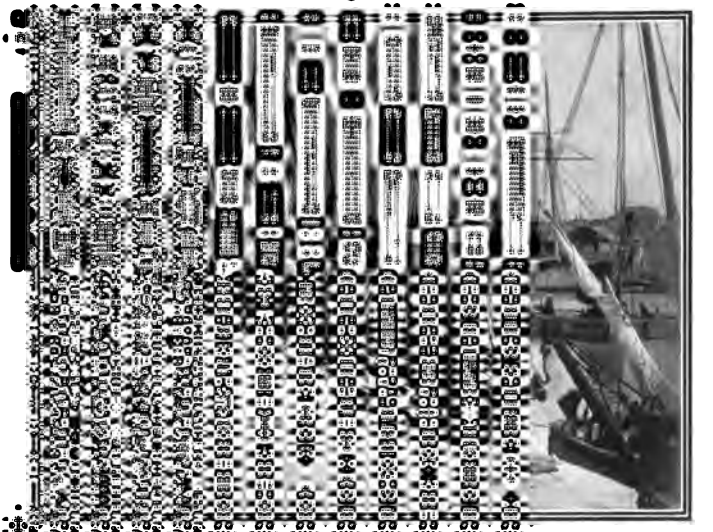
[illegible]

[illegible] er 26th, we awoke [illegible] Barbados. Here [illegible] provisioning, shop- [illegible] and its environs. [illegible] nearly so interest- [illegible] ds we had just vis- [illegible] partly of volcanic [illegible]. It is compara- [illegible] here are fine hills [illegible] d plenty of palms [illegible] n patches, and an



[illegible] OF [illegible], BARBADOS

[illegible] A YACHT [illegible] and around [illegible] Barbados is



[illegible] BARBADOS

[illegible] Lesser Antil- [illegible] and has an [illegible] part of the [illegible] cultivation of

[illegible] ll-kept city. The [illegible] er are mostly one [illegible] f coral rock, plas- [illegible] w and plain and [illegible] ons. The streets [illegible] -white pulverized [illegible] ade gives them a [illegible] public buildings [illegible] tial locality of the [illegible] e—with its long [illegible] handsome villas, and pretty private gardens, is as attractive a sight as one could see in any city. A drive along one of the numerous roads leading out of the town, or a short journey in a mule-tram, is sure to furnish entertain-

YACHT

BARBADOS TYPES—II

women are

—often a

market, and

Barbados,

ne in the

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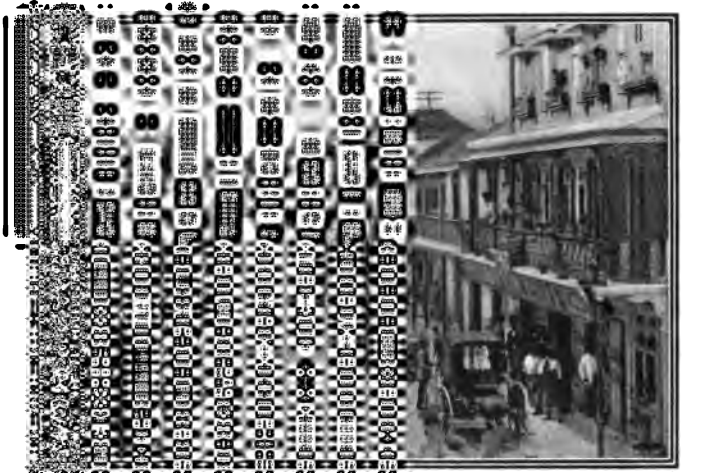
red about

[illegible] and selling at the [illegible] little dingy lamp-lit [illegible] other and the stray [illegible] ghed and skipped,



[illegible] TOWN, BARBADOS

[illegible] with the dusky young [illegible] melodies. Then, at [illegible] began to go out, the [illegible] dwindled and disap- [illegible] found ourselves almost [illegible] streets, excepting a

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] ed near the [illegible] ght among [illegible] quisites of

[illegible] BRIDGETOWN, [illegible] DOS

[illegible] mile; of its [illegible] tes; 50,000 [illegible] Negroes.

[illegible] e, and most [illegible] erprise is in [illegible] rtion is con- [illegible] pprehended [illegible] cene of cal- [illegible] to the out- [illegible] to prevail,

[illegible]S IN A YACHT

[illegible] not unknown. The [illegible] is certainly to be [illegible] cy it has shown in

[illegible] TOWN, BARBADOS

[illegible] conditions and this [illegible]

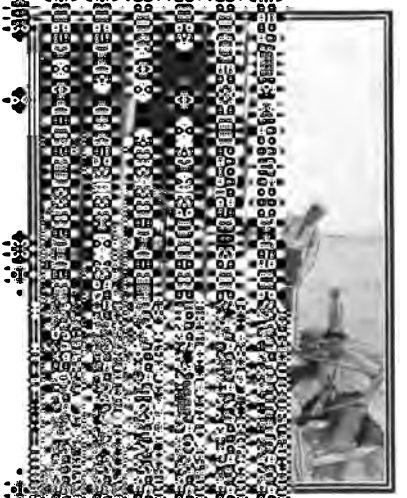
[illegible] mercial prosperity of [illegible] the fact that here the [illegible] tain amount of work

[illegible] which he can

BARBADOS TYPES—III

[illegible]S IN A YACHT

[illegible]te an impoverish-
[illegible]eral devitalization.
[illegible] and sub-tropical
[illegible] a continual high
[illegible] to the full devel-
[illegible] the well-being of
[illegible] been prepared,
[illegible]her conditions —
[illegible], it is almost in-
[illegible]shness and beauty.



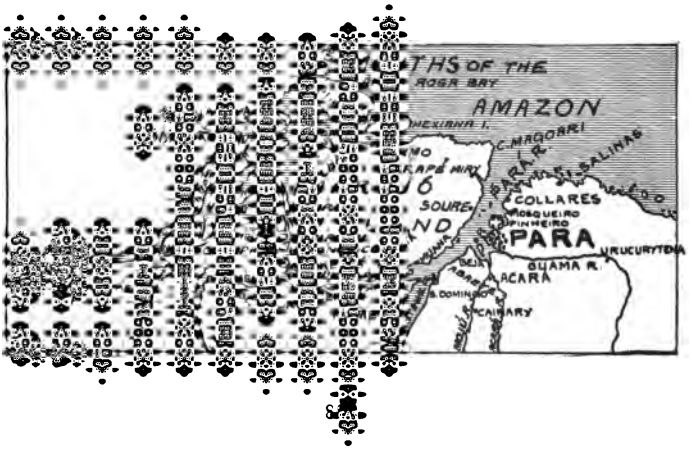
CLEANING SHIP

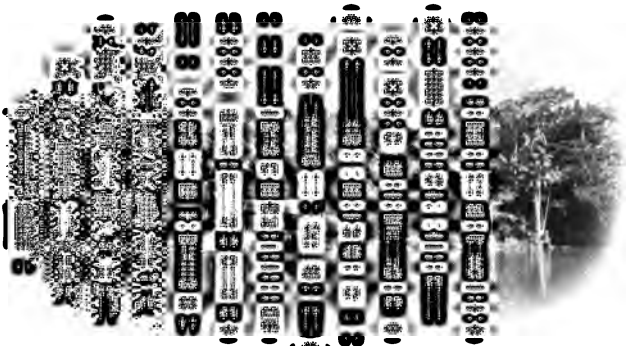
DOWN TO THE EQUATOR

We left Barbados just before sunset on November 28th, and after a five days' run through stiff south-east trade winds and a rolling, white-capped sea, sufficiently boisterous to keep the yacht dancing all the time, we reached the mouth of the great "Inland Sea," the "King of Rivers," the "Mediterranean of South America"—as the Amazon has been variously called.

The only events worthy of particular mention during these five days were the fine sunsets, and they were, indeed, events. Two, at least, of our party, and generally more, whatever we happened to be doing at the time, would give up half-an-hour to the contemplation of these gorgeous solar displays. O for a collection of those five master-paintings of Nature! Yet a painter who should depict on canvas such sunsets as those would be looked upon as a fantastic perverter of reality, color-drunk and visually mad.

their composition
the colors repre-
ch the same. I will
magnificent sights,
he colors were re-
here were none of
Every color was
al half-tone. There
yellows, but orange
z-yellows, turquoise
reen that one sees
ts, while the arch of
flushed with a faint



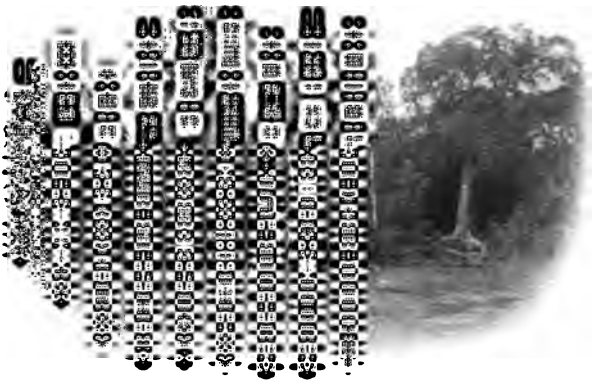


[illegible] MAZON

[illegible] RIVER

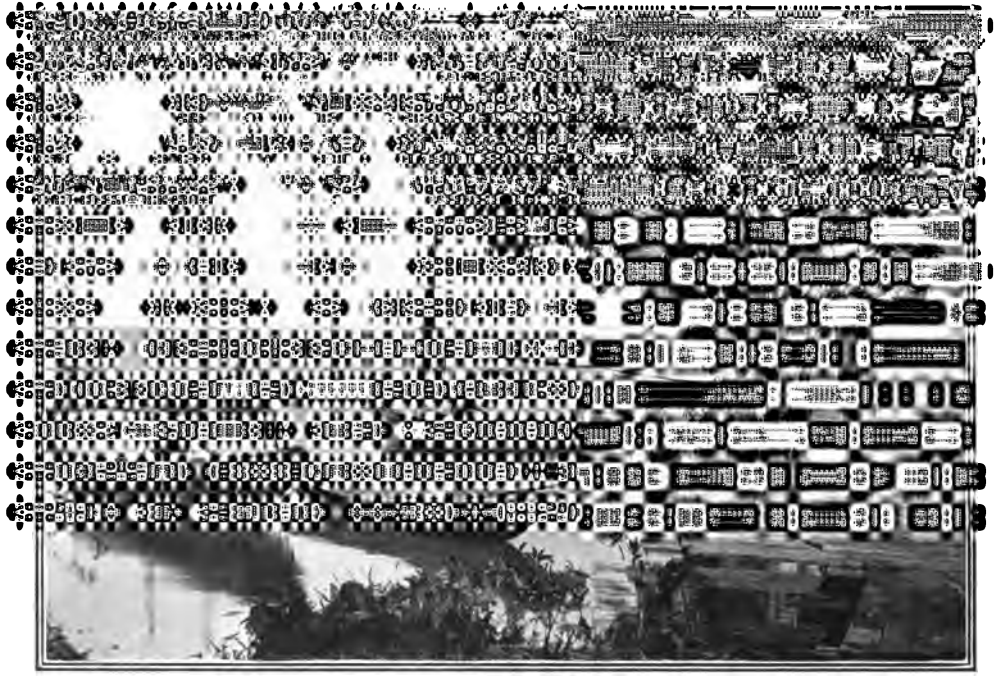
[illegible] rise on De- [illegible] hours later, [illegible] st of North- [illegible] days, we had [illegible] can shore to [illegible] current. But [illegible] urrent along [illegible] y the sweep [illegible] we had been [illegible] iles still fur-

were at the time
Even at this dis-
river, the natural
ocean is discolored



AZON

yellow waters of
said that this dis-
out to sea as two
gave us our first
me and force of the



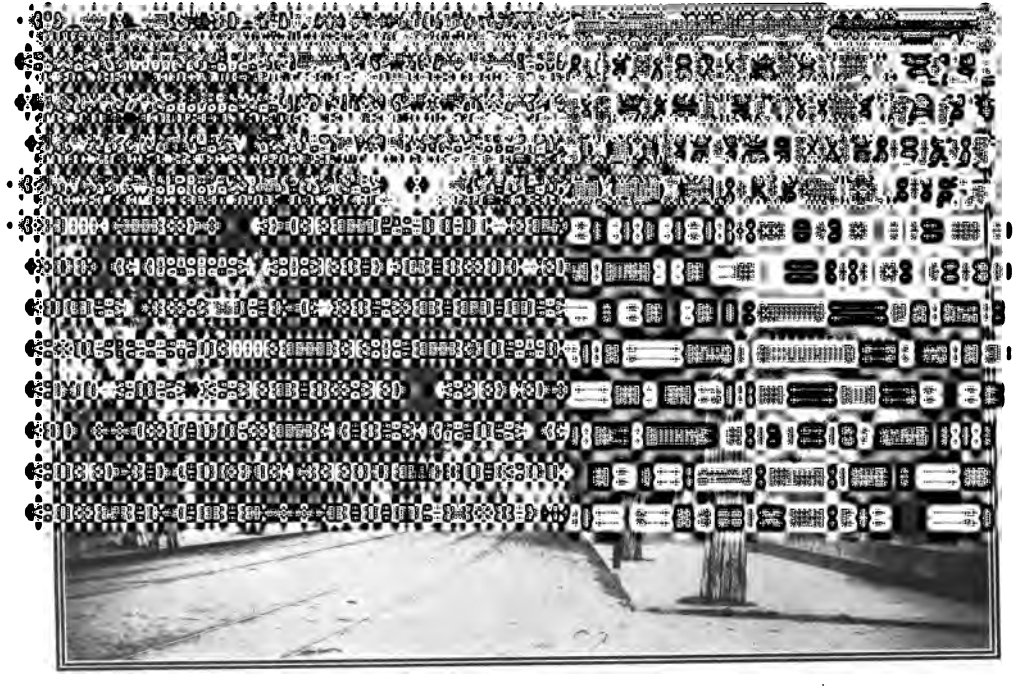
HIGH-RIVER SEASON ON THE LOWER AMAZON

came across
lot aboard.
ere now on
azon: but
as nothing
o indicate
except the
g yellow-
the water;
had lost
the land
d to all ap-
es were out
open sea.
wonder we
discern the
or the river
ated to be
cross at its
undreds of
of Marajó,
g, and over
to say, con-

[illegible] IN A YACHT

[illegible] land, or more than [illegible] ts. Marajó divides [illegible] wo main outlets, of [illegible] ed the Pará River. [illegible] nd it to be in itself [illegible] anks could be seen. [illegible] res of islands, some [illegible] like the mainland. [illegible] e fish leaped out of [illegible] nd we got our first

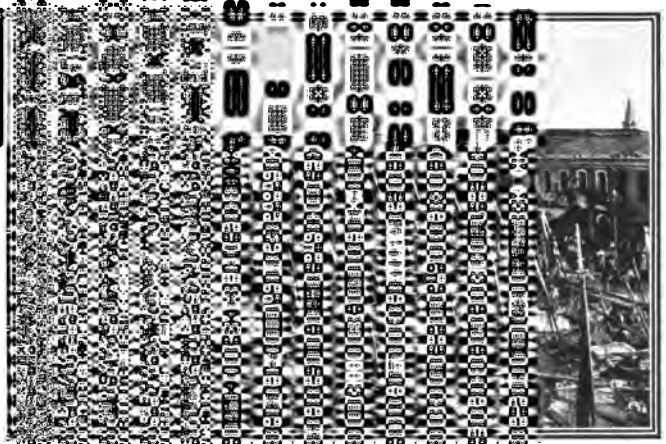
[illegible], PARÁ



A PARÁ AVENUE

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] erest that [illegible] nd weari- [illegible] eration— [illegible] and rank [illegible] And here [illegible] ery which



[illegible] RÁ

[illegible] miles of [illegible] de change [illegible] much on [illegible] xept in the

[illegible]ES IN A YACHT

[illegible]TION, PARÁ

[illegible] the contours of the [illegible] and the width of the [illegible] yellow, muddy water, [illegible] lands covered with [illegible] down into the water, [illegible] ted foliage in which [illegible] abundant, a tangle [illegible] with rank grass and [illegible] ks; and beyond this [illegible] ble but the sky, the

YACHT

water and

ne general

unset, and

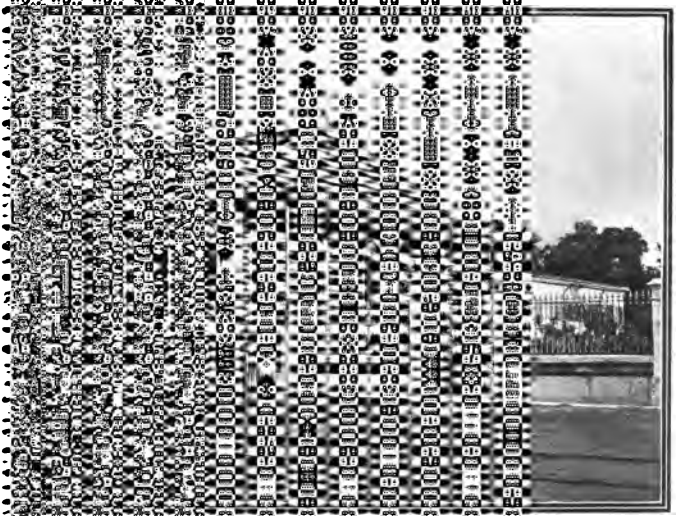
miles off,

t morning.

e Amazon

uch an ex-

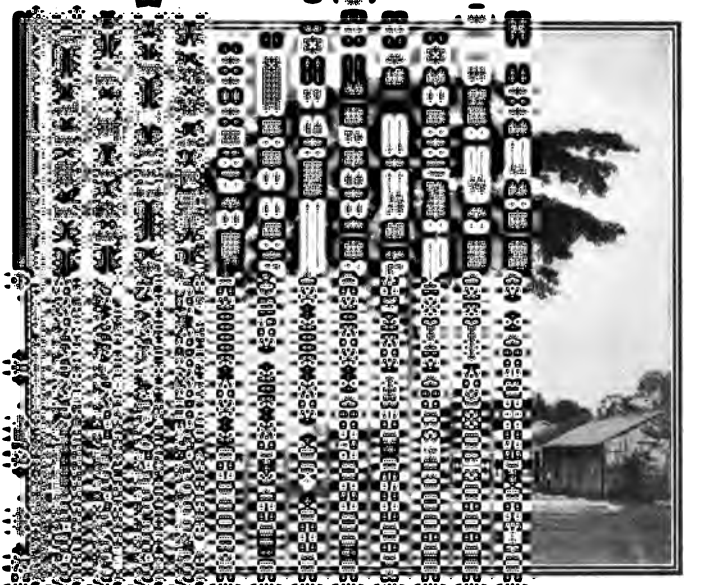
eds of ves-



sels—ocean liners, men-of-war, river steamers, launches, tugs, lighters, and small sailing craft of picturesque appearance—lay in the harbor, telling a tale of much traffic and many cargoes. Pará is a curious mixture of beauty and ugliness, in which respect, of course, it does not differ from most other cities. The river front is occupied by *trapiches*—landing jetties and storage sheds—and the first street behind these is the commercial street of the port, containing the offices and storehouses of the importers, rubber merchants, brokers, and shipping companies. Beyond, the city extends in narrow streets to the section of retail trade, where cheap imported articles are sold at amazingly high prices. Here one may board a mule tramcar and emerge into a broad avenue leading to the modern section of the city, where handsome residences and fine public buildings and squares planted with tropical trees greet the eye. In this vicinity is the Botanical and Zoological Garden, which contains a most interesting collection of living specimens of Amazonian birds,

[illegible] A YACHT

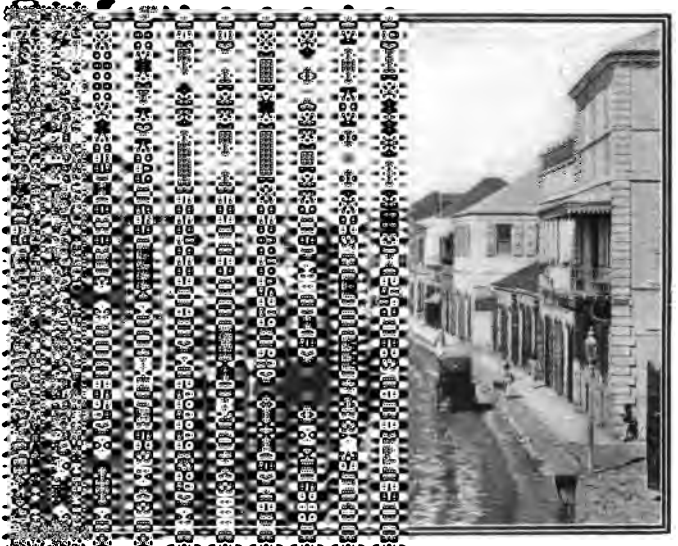
[illegible] off the main [illegible] ster houses, [illegible] of the popu-



[illegible] town, near [illegible] h and mud [illegible] poorer class

[illegible] IN A YACHT

[illegible] estimated at about [illegible] and, and an aston- [illegible] oses it. There are [illegible] English, Germans, [illegible] gaged in shipping, [illegible] buying and export- [illegible] The rest of the [illegible] groes, Indians, and [illegible] hree.



[illegible], PARÁ

A YACHT

or; we were

Hot it is,

trade wind

nd across a

BRAZILIAN CHURCH

age temper-

higher. On

inquired of

etween the

Pará. "It

anáos," was

e reply, at which
e face of the official
sumed a blank ex-
ession. The uni-
rmity of tempera-
re at the equator
nders a thermome-
r of little use, and
e significance of
egrees is not well
nderstood. But the
ce of the official
ghted up with un-
erstanding when
Manáos I used to
e in Pará I don't

n valley the humid-
The least exertion
n. Yet the heat is
ring, and one never
We were fortun-
irginia always lay

A YACHT

hor, and we

as might be

any electric

ture on the

ions of the

ess pleasant

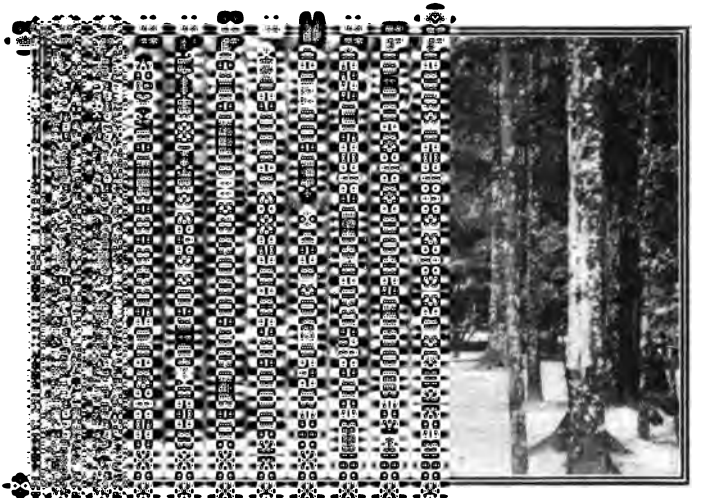
p ashore.

and learned

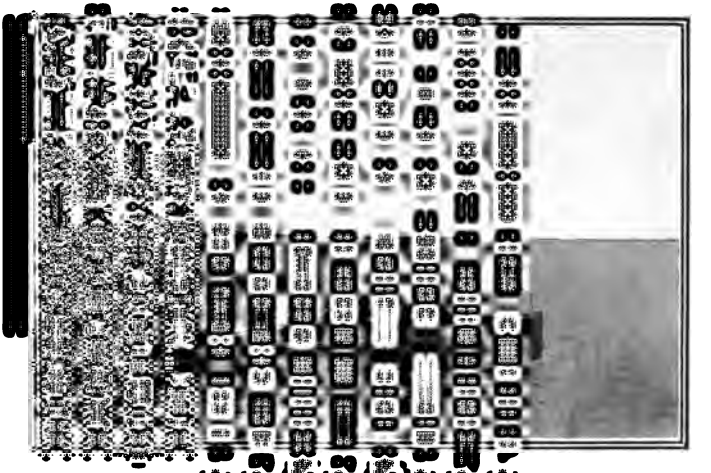
e. We were

PROFESSOR NORTH BRAZILIAN BEAUTY—II

[illegible] ial basis of prac-
[illegible] of the Amazon
[illegible] say, the millions
[illegible] t stream and its
[illegible] inhabited, except
[illegible] men. But more
[illegible]



[illegible] PARÁ



[illegible]

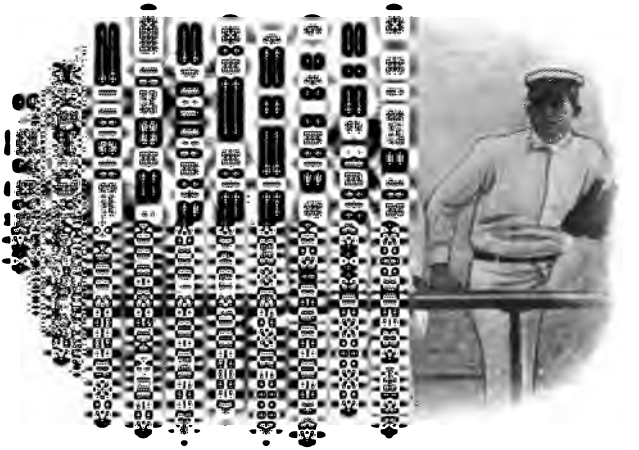
[illegible] UPSTREAM

[illegible] evening of [illegible] anchors we [illegible] of the cur- [illegible] cruise. The [illegible] compass, and [illegible] their way [illegible] innumera- [illegible] night—for [illegible] most of them

[illegible] IN A YACHT

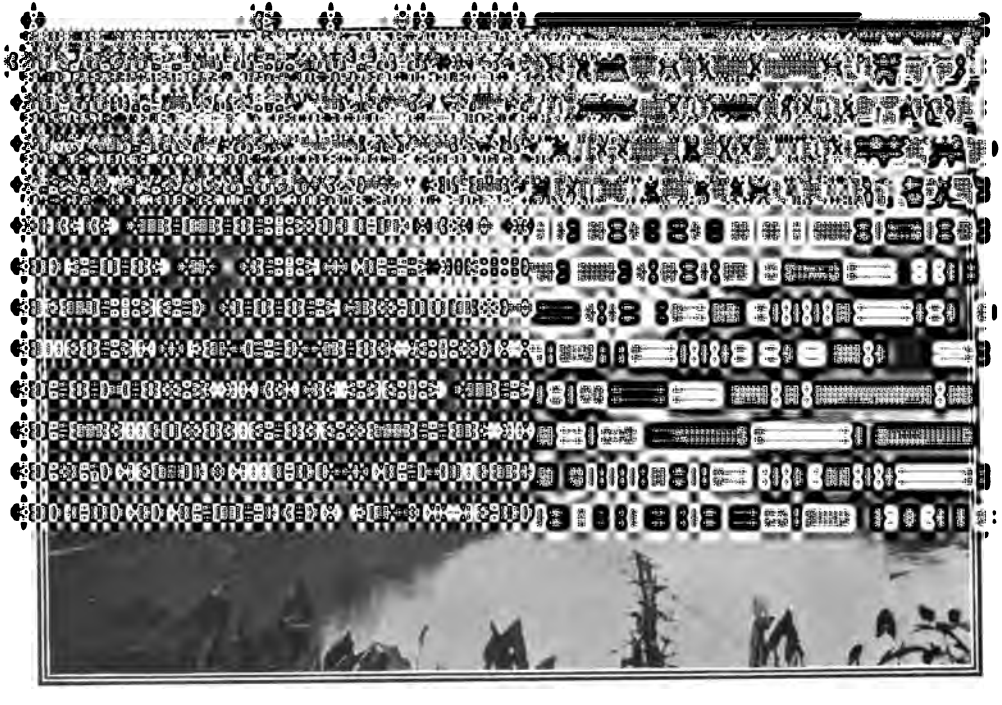
[illegible] and currents for [illegible]

[illegible] in the Narrows, [illegible] through scores



[illegible] ST OFFICER

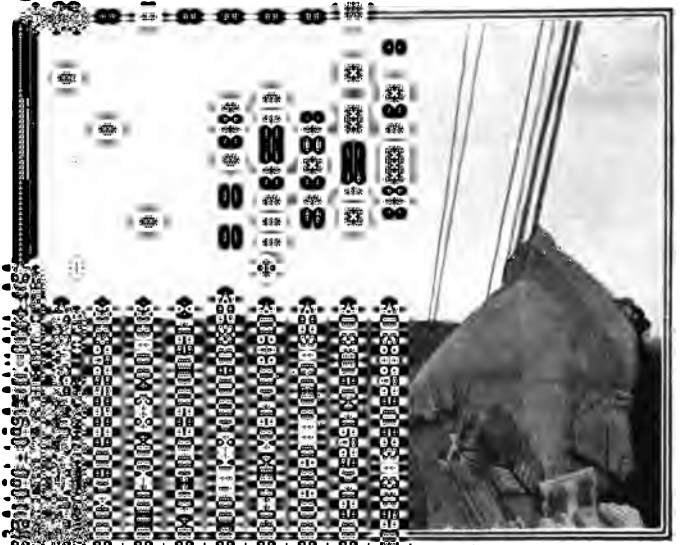
[illegible] The breadth of [illegible] eighty or ninety [illegible] The banks of the [illegible] the soil is rarely [illegible] pushes right down [illegible] through which it



IN "THE NARROWS," LOWER AMAZON

would be difficult to effect a landing without bill-hooks and axes. Here the forest is perhaps more gorgeous and luxuriant than anywhere else on the river. The trees are of considerable height and girth, closely set together, densely leafed, and of great variety. Palms of many kinds are conspicuous everywhere, and rich-tinted orchids and other forest flowers stand out gayly from the dark and the luminous greens of the heavy foliage. There are no hills, and the traveller's view is stopped short at the wall of forest. Here and there is a clearing of a few square yards, and on it, set upon thin piles, stands the most primitive sort of palm-leaf hut, the rude dwelling of a seringueiro, or rubber-gatherer. These livers of the simple life are mostly Negro-Indians and Negro-Indian-Brazilians. As we steamed along, the women, and often the men—who seemed to be at home for the day with nothing to do—would gaze at us languidly, without stirring from their squatting or leaning positions, too lazy or dull to lift a hand in answer to our salutations, though their

[illegible] with more energy, [illegible]uld run out to the [illegible]e-jetty, reply to our



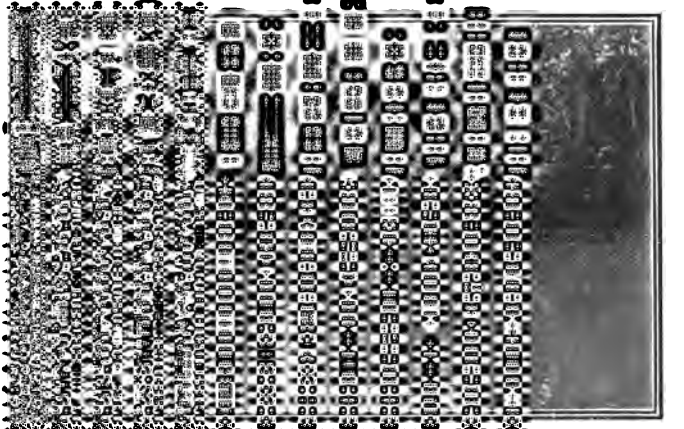
"[illegible]E NARROWS"

[illegible] watch our (to them) [illegible] up the river.

[illegible] daybreak we found [illegible]labyrinth of islands [illegible] Now we hugged

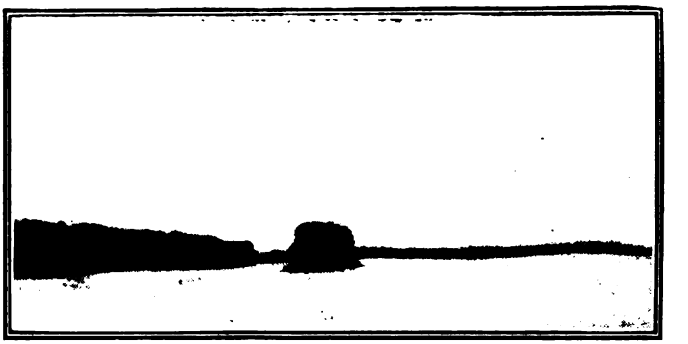
YACHT

across the
strong cur-
from three
expanse
from view



miles long.
way up the
and in every
beginning to
those whose
way by the

current. But when you come to a stretch of open river you have the sensation of sailing on a broad sound, like Long Island Sound, and looking up one of the big tributaries where it



AN ISLAND ON ITS LAST LEGS

flows into the main stream is like looking into a big bay or gulf.

Three or four hundred miles up, the land begins to rise a little higher out of the water, and except in the high-river season, assumes the appearance of regular banks—though even here these are only a few feet high—and the huts are built on the soil instead of on piles in the swamps, as they are lower down. As you

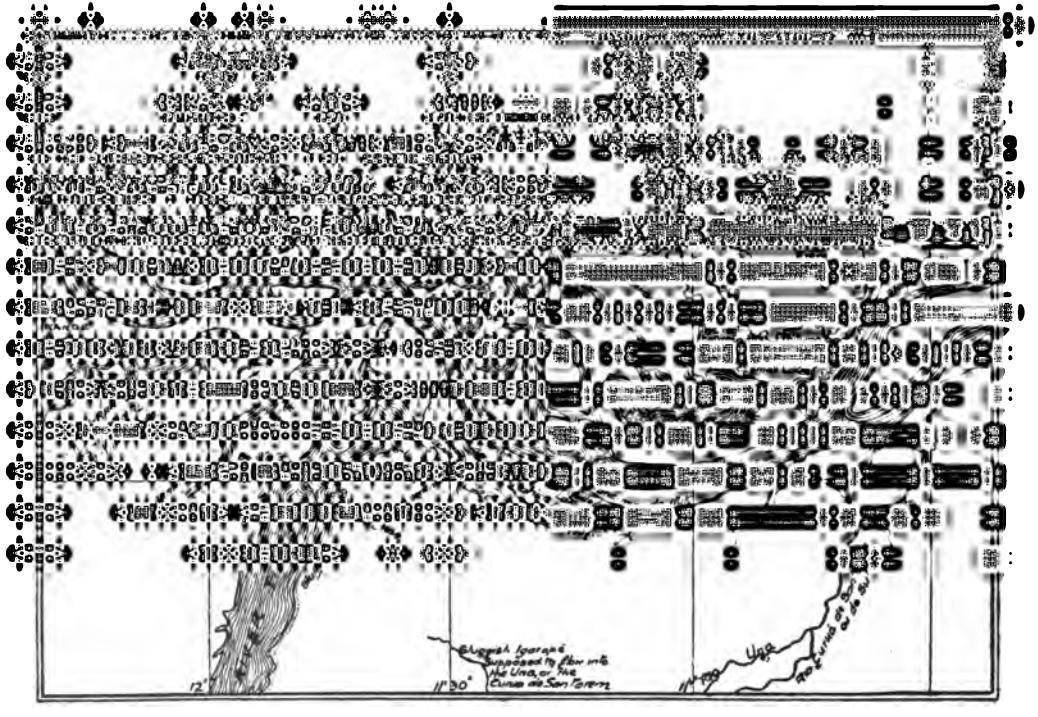
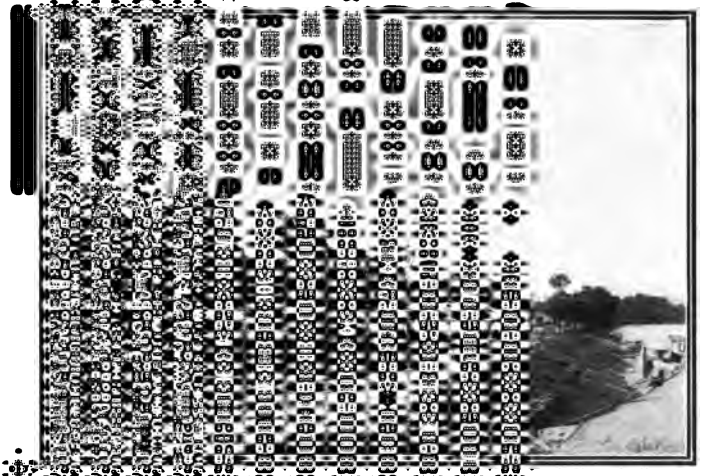


CHART OF PART OF THE LOWER AMAZON

Showing the numerous channels, lakes and igarapés

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] gradually a [illegible] becomes less [illegible] looks more [illegible] to appear, [illegible] to Manáos,



A AMAZONIAN VILLAGE

[illegible] pioneer has [illegible] homestead, and [illegible] of low hills [illegible] a range of [illegible] thousand feet

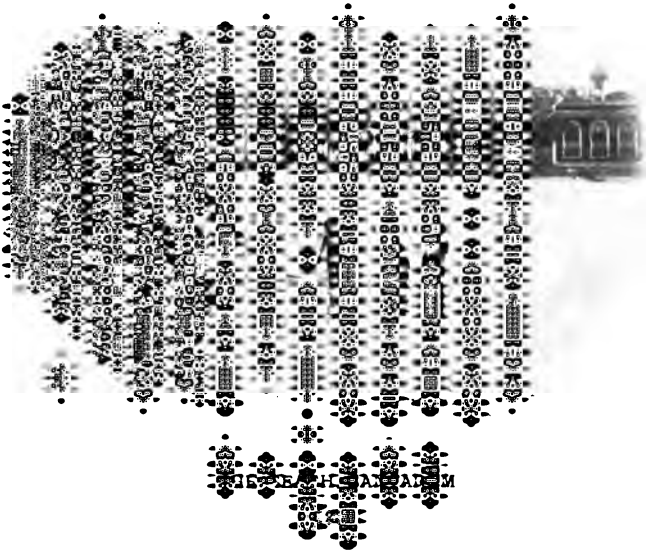
[illegible] mainland, a re-
[illegible] wilderness of forest
[illegible] ed clay cliffs and
[illegible] e southern bank.
[illegible] Pará is the town

A [illegible] THE AMAZON

[illegible] ace, with hills be-
[illegible] h before. It lies
[illegible] tributary, whose
[illegible] and clear. The
[illegible] e than five thou-
[illegible] ople, and has a

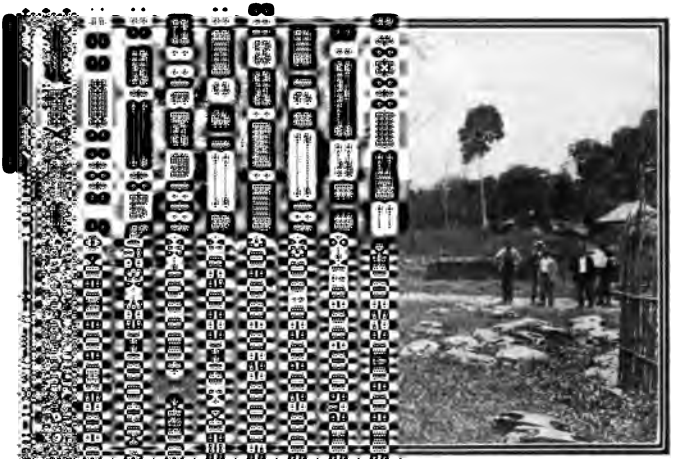
YACHT

[illegible] Macao. One [illegible] is Obidos, [illegible] shipment [illegible] expanse [illegible] channel one [illegible] depth of [illegible] of the river [illegible] the stream [illegible] Where are [illegible] villages be- [illegible] as well as the



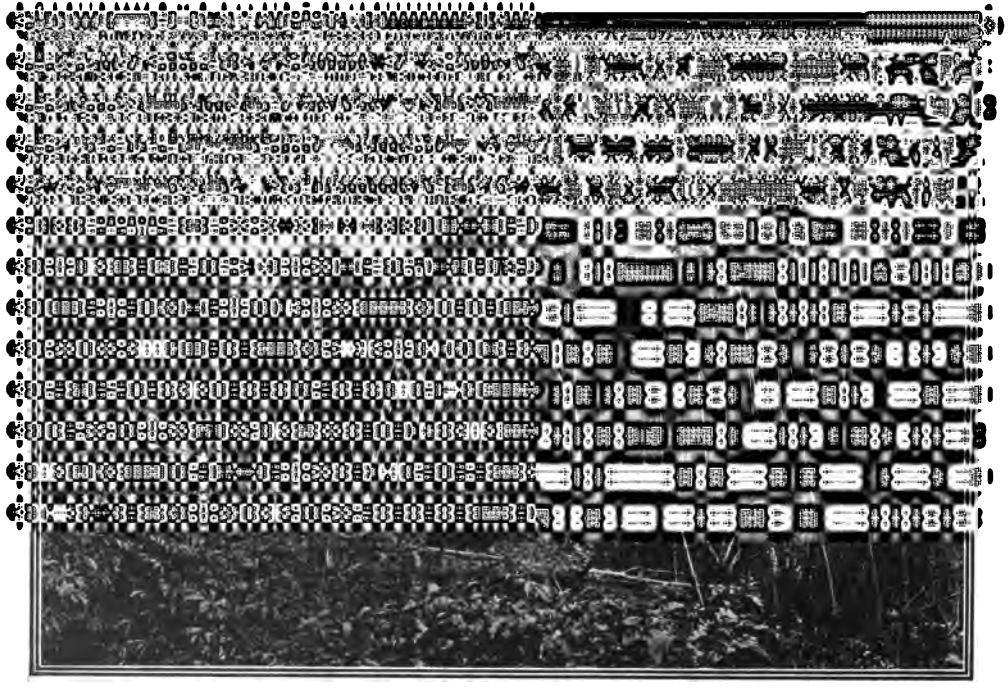
[illegible], are very primitive [illegible] people of mixed [illegible]

[illegible] on the deck of his



[illegible] STATION

[illegible] above Obidos, and [illegible] along the wall of forest [illegible] way, now dim and [illegible]—he is impressed, [illegible] alone, with the im- [illegible] waters and this wilder-

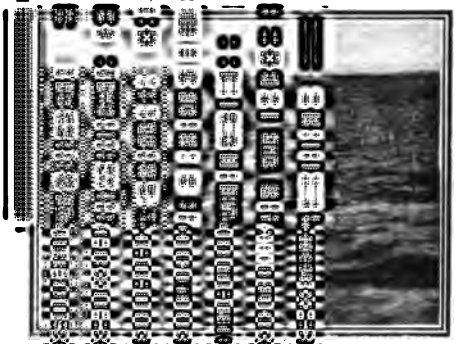


FOREST NEAR THE RIVER

ness of low, jungle-covered deposit of earth (for that is what most of the land is, a mere deposit). But to get a full sense of the vastness, he must let his mental vision wander further and wider, first east and west over a line 3,000 miles long, up and down the main river, then up each of the great tributaries, and then north and south over a tract of some other hundreds of miles, across the Amazon Valley—the tract traversed by the Amazon itself, a plain abounding in lakes, swamps, canals and islands. The area of the water surface alone, in the Amazon Valley, including the valleys of the tributaries, cannot be less than 25,000 square miles. The average depth of the main river being about 200 feet, and the current sweeping down at the rate of from two to three miles an hour, the mind of the observer is paralyzed when it endeavors to conceive the volume of water which is thus emptied annually into the sea from this valley.

Above Santarém, as I have said, the land lies higher out of the water. The forest near the river is less dense: it is not the same impene-

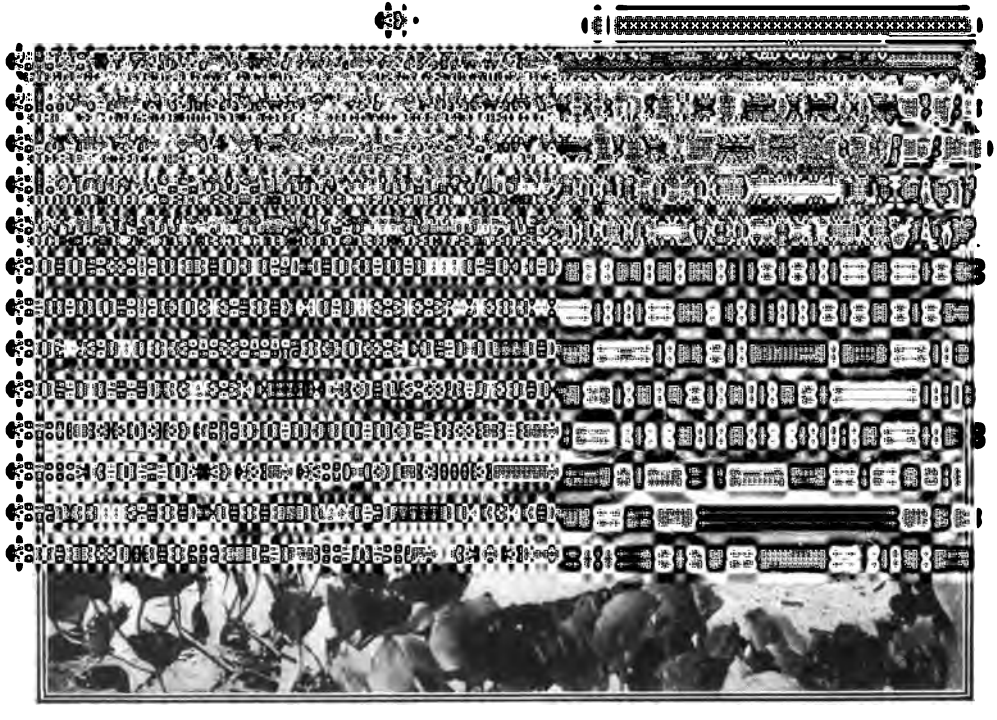
down: you can
e character of the
usly wild and lux-
early so plentiful.



THE SEA

and great variety

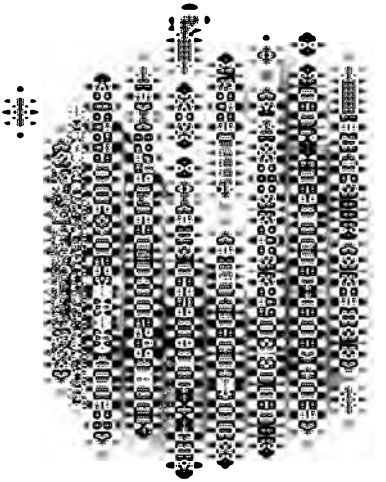
e fourth day after
came to the con-
and the Amazon.
sharp bend to the
straight into the
appears to be the
o mistaking long

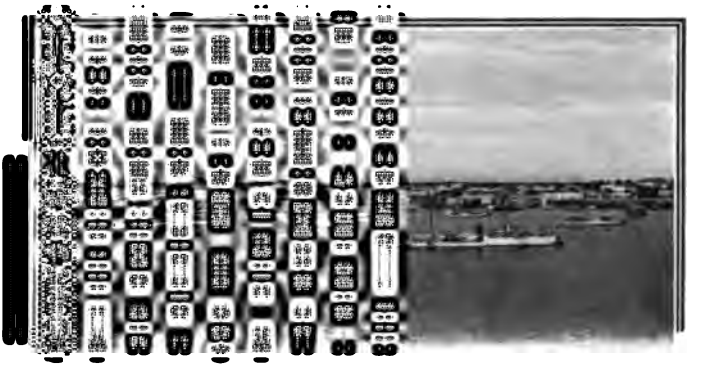


THE VICTORIA REGIA OF THE AMAZON LAGOONS

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] tributary, [illegible] Amazon are [illegible] waters of [illegible] bank, and [illegible] mingle, the [illegible] color of [illegible]





[illegible] VILDERNESS

[illegible] situated six or seven [illegible], on elevated land. [illegible] son of the Amazon, [illegible] rs of the Rio Negro [illegible] les, so that the river- [illegible] ty feet higher than it [illegible] te then appears much

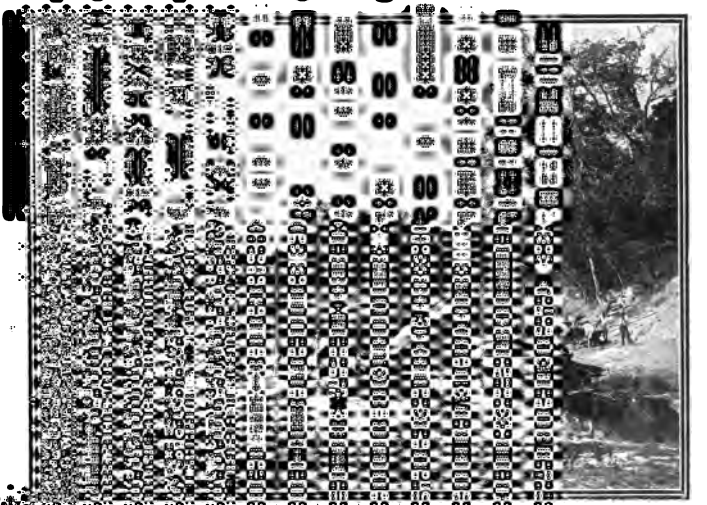
[illegible] the Amazon system [illegible] n does not occur at [illegible] stream and the tribu- [illegible] at they are fed from [illegible] The higher reaches

YACHT

now from

ams are

náos be-



nearly a

uch a well-

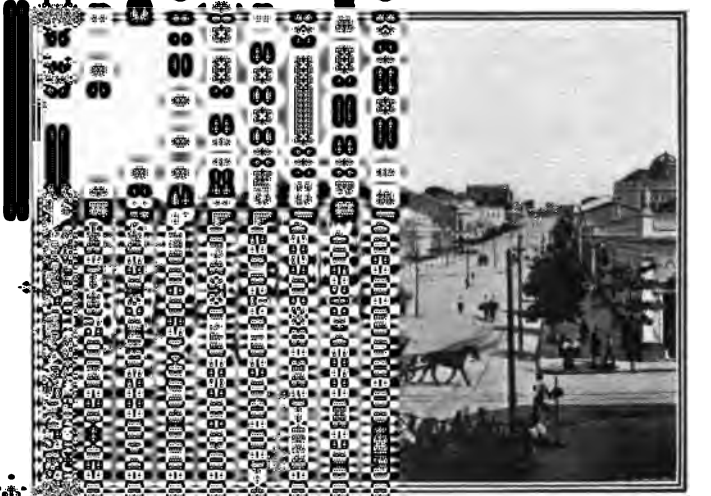
shed than

all struck

g vessels,

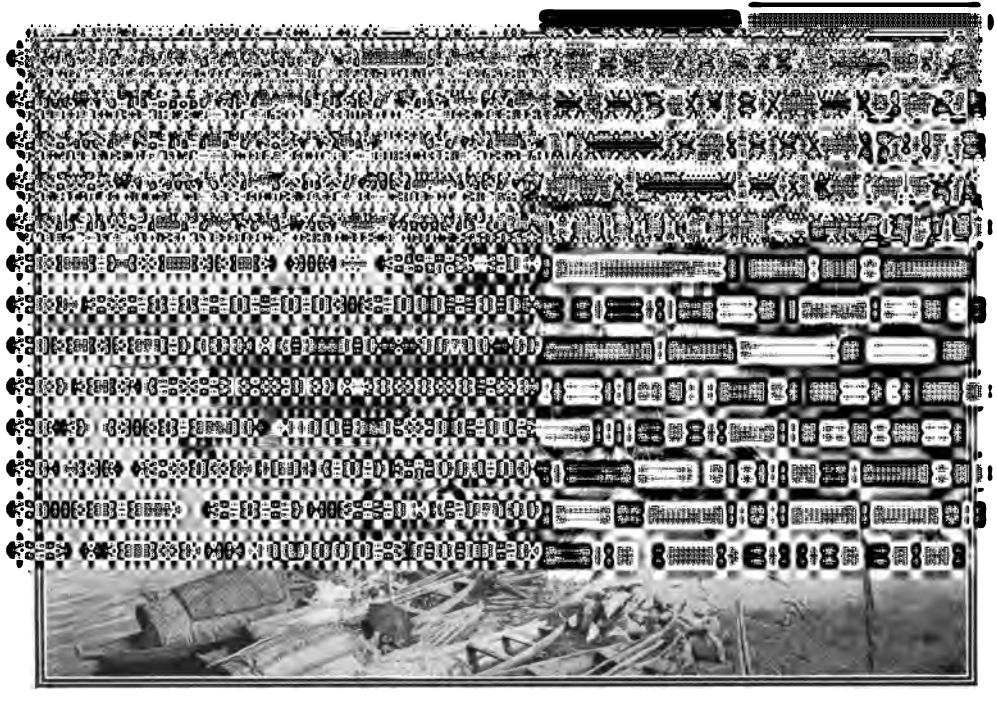
[illegible]LES IN A YACHT

[illegible]rs from Europe, that [illegible]n we went ashore we [illegible]d avenues and well- [illegible], a splendid opera



[illegible]E, MANÁOS

[illegible] and residences, elec- [illegible] pretentious stores, [illegible]ks, a merry-go-round, [illegible] a thoroughly modern [illegible] young Yale wit, in



THE MARKET, MANÁOS

describing the town, "is known as the Paris of the Amazon—by those who haven't been there." But the term might be used, appropriately enough, by those who have been there; for the makers of Manáos seem in many things to have taken Paris for their model, and have given the place a sort of Parisian air.

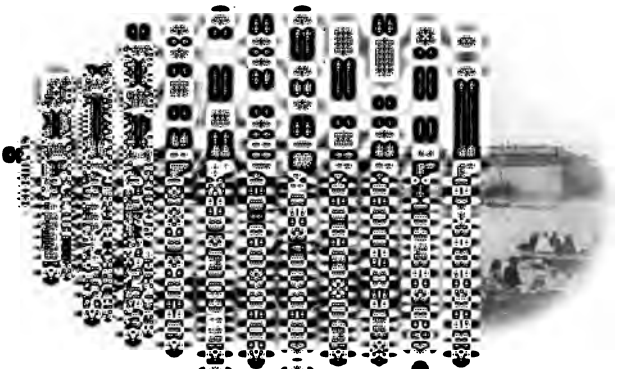
The visitor, however, is soon reminded that he is still in the backwoods. If he gets thirsty —as he is liable to do with the temperature at about 95 in the shade and 125 or 130 in the sun—and sits down at one of the cafe tables on the sidewalk to take a drink, he has to produce something like the equivalent of a dollar for his beverage; and, while sitting there, he will see go by many men and women of dark and mixed breed, and but few of pure white race; and if he jumps on a car and rides out of town a little way, he will find that the simple life has not been altogether abandoned here. Indeed, he need not go out of the main avenue to see well-grown children whose limbs are untrammelled by any stitch of clothing, and probably one-half

[illegible] feet that walk in [illegible]d in the woods of [illegible] shoes—for shoes are needless to them. The people are remarkably clean and orderly, and most of them receive at least a rudimentary education. The upper class, the professional men, merchants and government officials, are typical of the best Brazilian aspiration and culture. [illegible] distinctly the most [illegible]ies in the northern [illegible]

[illegible] at Manáos, and the [illegible] their utmost to sur-

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] ing us honor [illegible] banquet and [illegible] r entertain- [illegible] y seemed to [illegible] of every de-



[illegible] tive dugouts [illegible] steamers of [illegible] k some part [illegible] citizens and [illegible] on the *Vir-* [illegible] red to enjoy [illegible]

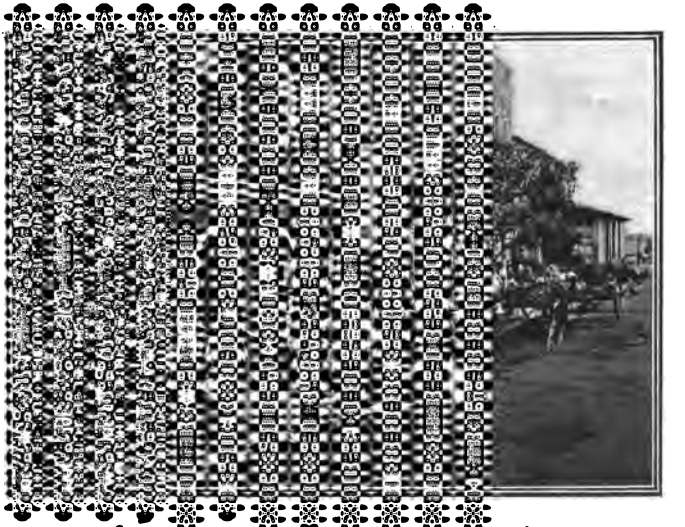
A steamboat excursion on the Rio Negro was also organized by the citizens, the *Virginia* being the vessel of honor. Many prominent Manáos people came aboard on this occasion, and the yacht, with all her bunting flying, steamed some miles upstream, thus establishing the record of penetrating further into the great Brazilian wilderness of water than any other yacht had ever gone.

Manáos is now the principal market for rubber on the Amazon, having superseded Pará in this respect. All the rubber from the tributaries in the State of Amazonas goes there for classification, taxation, and sale, and it is exported thence direct to Europe and America. Nearly 17,000 tons, of a value of about $35,000,000, were exported from this centre last crop year. There is an export duty on this product of about twenty-three per cent. of its market value, a similar duty being levied at the city of Pará on the rubber from the State of that name.

Immense revenues are thus derived by the two States of Pará and Amazonas. And this

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] and Manáos, [illegible] posing capi- [illegible] and works. [illegible] or roads to [illegible] nt to expend [illegible] untry, almost [illegible] he States of [illegible] expenditure [illegible]

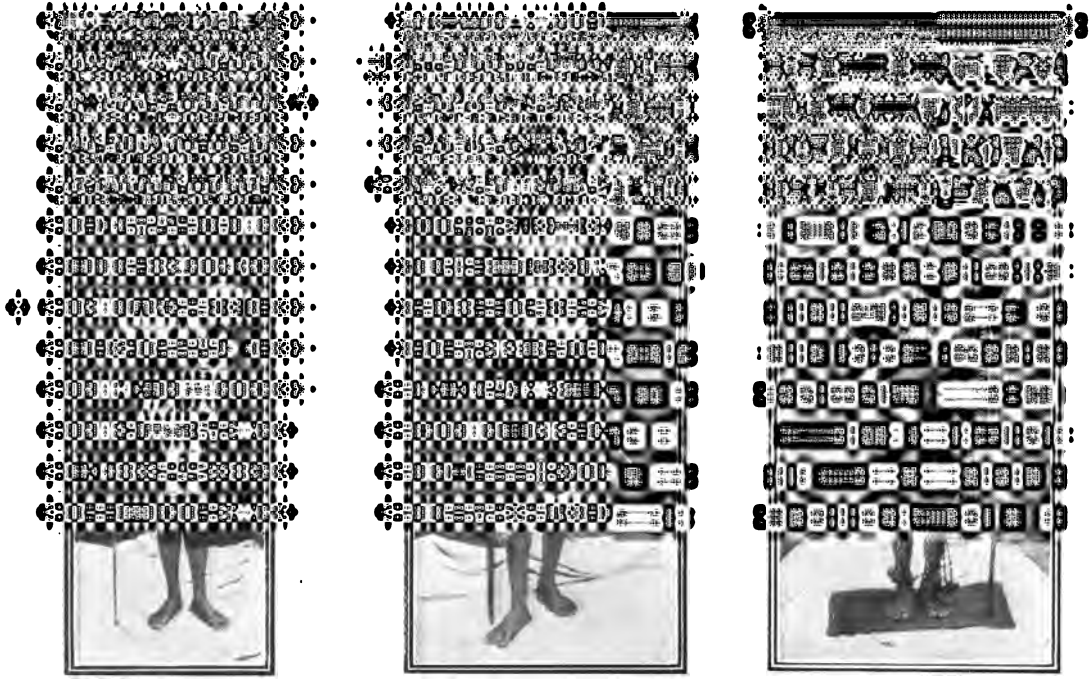


[illegible] ANÁOS

[illegible]

NDIANS

We were not able to see anything of the life of the Amazon Indians during our stay on the River. Indeed, we encountered but few pure-bred aborigines, ounced aboriginal own. We were population of the and its affluents s and half-castes, ought within the ication with trad- the present time, y explored upper y of the wild and with.



AMAZON INDIAN CHIEFS IN FULL DRESS

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] about ap-

[illegible] more deal-

[illegible] CHIEF

[illegible] fish. The [illegible] arrows pro-

[illegible] with the

[illegible] with barbed

[illegible] wpipe with

able weapon is a
feet long through
which very
slender darts,
poisoned at the
tip, are blown
with such force
and precision
that an animal
or bird may be
brought down
at a distance of
thirty yards or
more. The
great advan-
tage of this
weapon is its
ter being able to
his victim without

ethnographers that
the heat as well as
ffers from it even

A HUNTING EXCURSION

While we were at Manáos, some of us went on an interesting hunting excursion. Starting from the yacht in one of our steam launches at three o'clock in the morning, and accompanied by a pilot, we went down the Negro for some miles and turned first into a lagoon and then into an *igarapé* or long, narrow inlet. Here at daylight we had such shooting as would ravish the heart of any gun enthusiast. Herons, storks, cranes, ibises, parrots, ducks, and many other birds abounded; monkeys fled from tree to tree before us; an occasional sloth could be seen, with his long arms round a tree trunk crawling up at a snail's pace; huge turtles lay lazily on the mudbanks; and in the water, dark-red and gray dolphins sported near us, and alligators in profusion poked their eyes and the top of their skulls above the surface for us to shoot at. Two of us, taking our courage in both hands, landed and penetrated some distance into the woods to

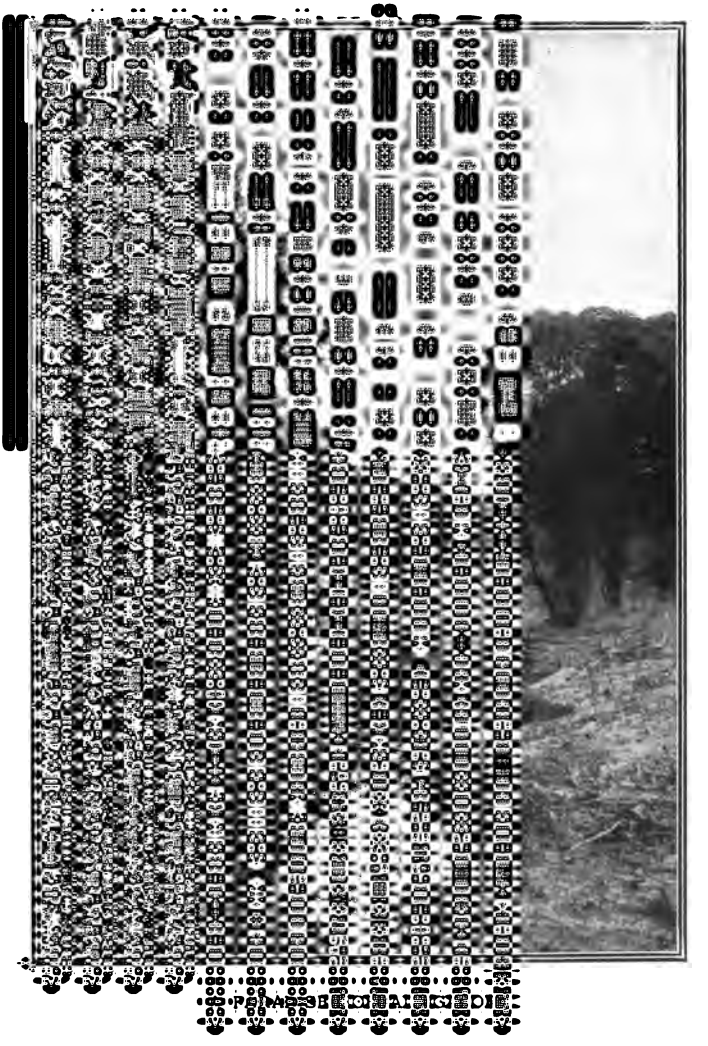
investigate the great unknown, to "sense" the forest and get the feel of it. We kept our fingers on the triggers of our Winchesters, but there was really little danger. Hardly any animal in the Amazonian forest will attack a man unless it is brought to bay. Even the snakes will scuttle away at the sound of a man's approach. But we paid the penalty of our intrepidity, nevertheless; for we found, on getting back to the launch, that our persons had been invaded by some sort of forest vermin, and we could rid ourselves of them only by the application of chemical preparations on our return to the yacht.

In spite of the game we brought back, we were duly "guyed" by those who had stayed on board.

"How much did you have to pay the natives for those birds?"

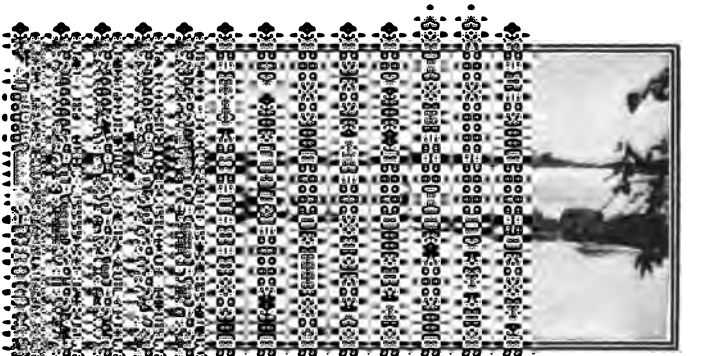
"You came home by way of the market, didn't you?"

These are samples of the insulting questions that were fired at us. One unfeeling member of the party remarked that there must have been



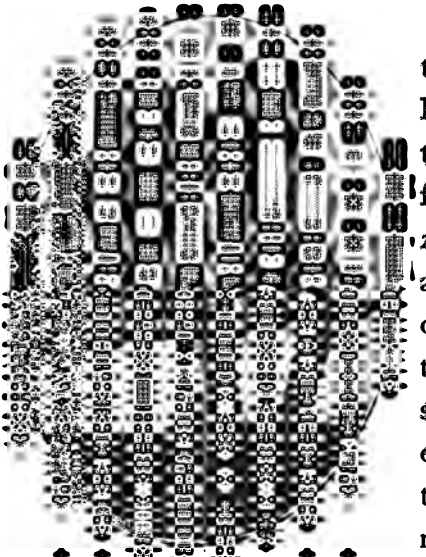
WHO SHALL REIGN?

[illegible] YACHT [illegible] t possibly [illegible] "But," he [illegible] what they [illegible]



[illegible] OF THE [illegible]

[illegible] IN A YACHT [illegible] OF THE AMAZON



It is not my intention to insert here a treatise on the flora and the fauna of the Amazon region. There are plenty of books on these subjects to which anyone sufficiently interested can readily turn. I will merely refer briefly to the principal forms of [illegible] are to be met with [illegible] the warm, humid [illegible] region combine to [illegible] variety of vegeta- [illegible] ed. Almost every

form of tree and plant, it would seem, is represented in these forests. There are numerous kinds of gigantic trees whose woods are admirably suited for building and cabinet-making; there are several species of rubber-bearing trees and vines; there are spice-yielding trees and plants; aromatic herbs; plants that give many of the most useful of our drugs; others that yield oils; woods from which fine dyes may be extracted; others that produce vegetable ivory; roots that are excellent foods; trees and shrubs that furnish textile fibres, resins, gums, balsams and essences; and fruits and nuts in profusion. Here in this jungle, indeed, is natural wealth enough to set up and maintain two or three kingdoms, could man only live and work in it and maintain health and comfort. With but little labor, roots and seeds spring up and rapidly mature. Corn, coffee, sugar-cane, tobacco, cocoa and all tropical fruits grow with a minimum of assistance from man. The Mandioca root (which also yields the product we call tapioca) furnishes a flour called *farinha*. This

flour is the staff of life of the Amazon population, much more so indeed than bread is the staff of life with us of the Temperate Zone. Palm trees of many varieties are to be seen everywhere, but particularly on the Lower Amazon. Orchids of strange form and brilliant coloring, and tree flowers which, in the mass, often look, from a distance, like patches of yellow or red flame, afford a pleasing relief from the eternal green of the forest.

Like the plant life, the animal life of the Amazon country is amazingly abundant and varied. Nearly every known family of animals, excepting the enormous quadrupeds of the deserts and plains of the Old World, is represented. There are at least eight species of monkeys, probably many more. There are two species of the feline order—the spotted panther and the tiger-cat. Of the canine tribe, there are the red wolf and the Brazilian wild dog. Of the weasel family, there are the Brazilian otter and two or three other species. There are several sorts of quadrumana belonging to the omniverous class.

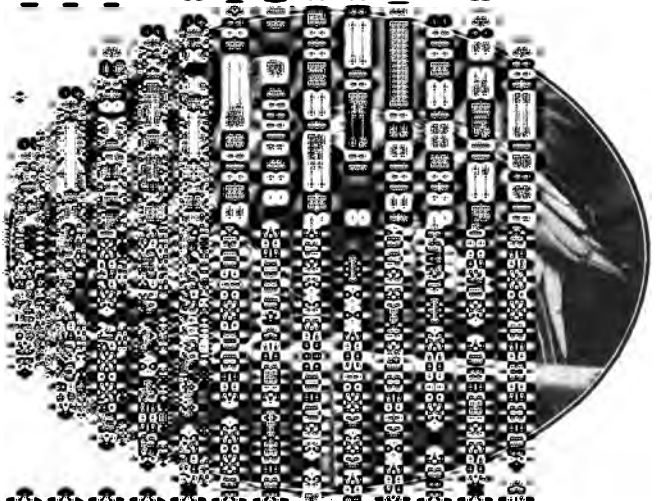
In the order of ruminants, there is nearly every species of deer—the *paludosus* of the marshes, the *rufus* of the higher lands, the *campestris* of the plains, and the *nemorivagus*, a small animal which lives mostly on the shrubby land. Of the pachyderms, there is the tapir, the largest mammal of the Amazon region, whose skin is as thick and tough as the elephant's. There are three kinds of wild pig. The rodent class is represented by half a dozen species, and there are more than that number of varieties of the toothless order, which live entirely on ants, worms and insects. Then there is the sloth, a most ungainly, harmless, and pathetic-looking creature. There are three or four kinds of vampires and several sorts of bats. The marsupials are represented by the *sariguea* and the *didelphis murina*. Snakes of every description abound, from harmless little things a few inches long to the deadly rattle-snake and the enormous *boa-scytale* which will crush an ox or a tapir to death and devour it bones and all. Of the order of the cetaceans, there is the great

peixe-boi or cow-fish, the largest fresh-water fish in the world, and the *boto* or Amazon dolphin. The former is herbivorous and the latter carniverous. The cow-fish attains a length of ten feet and its flesh is said to be a very good food. There are two kinds of dolphin, called the white and the red, though in the water they appear gray and dark-brown. The former is harmless, the latter is very dangerous. They go in schools, and are constantly seen following large and small craft and coming to the surface to breathe. Turtles and alligators are extremely plentiful. Turtle meat is the beef and mutton of the Amazon, and is served at the tables of rich and poor alike at least two or three times a week.

Agassiz, the great naturalist, says that "the Amazon nourishes about twice as many species of fish as the Mediterranean, and a more considerable number than the Atlantic Ocean from one pole to the other." The most important fish, the one which, next to turtle meat and *farinha*, is the chief article of food in the coun-

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] le among [illegible] swamps [illegible] into con- [illegible] akes and



[illegible] PARROTS

[illegible] nough to [illegible]

[illegible] o, present [illegible] ttempt to [illegible] vo species [illegible] d eight of [illegible]

owls. Notable among the many singing birds are the bright-yellow *sabiá*, which has a strong and melodious but unvarying voice; the humming bird; the *bem-te-vi*, which hops from branch to branch; and the black and yellow *chechéo*, which builds a long, sleeve-shaped nest and hangs it from the branches of the highest trees. There are many kinds of pigeons. Of the climbing species, there is a great variety, of all sizes: these are invariably green, or green and yellow. There are the macaws and the toucans, the *maracanas* and the paroquets. The web-footed tribes, of course, are legion. One of the most notable of these is the *guará* (*ibis rubra*) whose feathers change color as the bird ages. The pheasant class is represented by half a dozen varieties. The waders, too, are everywhere in evidence.

If, while on the river, the traveller takes the trouble to get up at daybreak, he will be rewarded by a sight which he will never afterwards forget—the sight of the feathered myriads of the forest and the swamps seeking their

YACHT

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beautiful,

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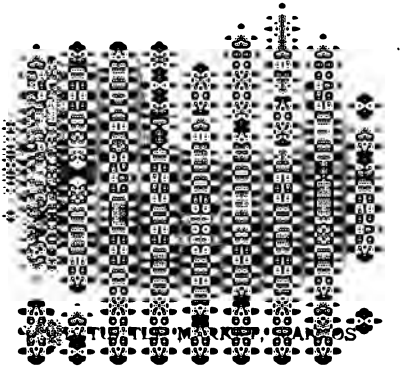
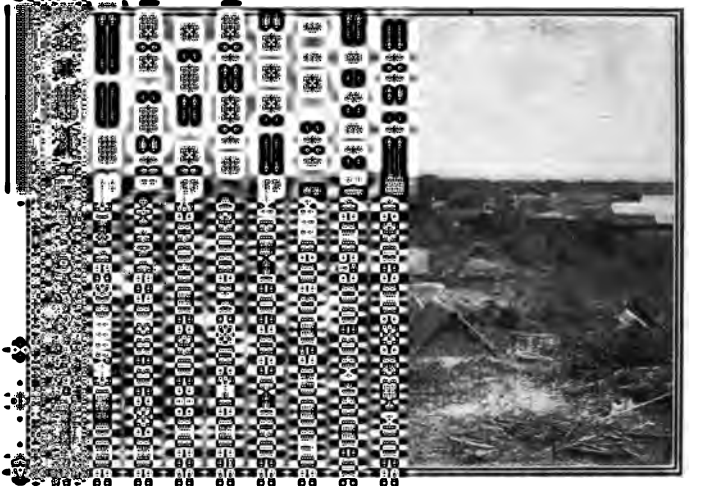


[illegible] ES IN A YACHT

[illegible] EWARD

[illegible] evening of January [illegible] ys. As we quitted [illegible] r and turned down

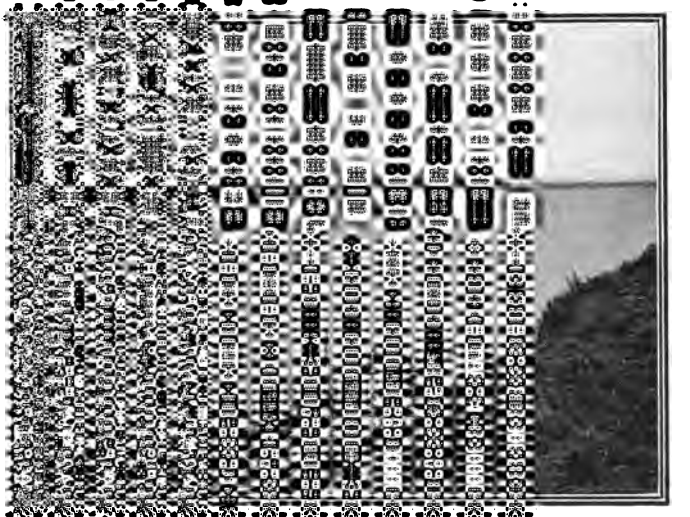


[illegible] QUITOS

[illegible] med to watching [illegible] us a cordial farewell. [illegible] y sunset," said the [illegible] by *Heaven!*" re-

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] had had [illegible] was rather [illegible] intention [illegible] the good



[illegible] TARY

[illegible] and enter- [illegible] more cordial. [illegible] intention at [illegible] to Iquitos, [illegible] er is easily

large steamers from
. But we found on
little to gain in ex-
ng further; for the
on which we had seen
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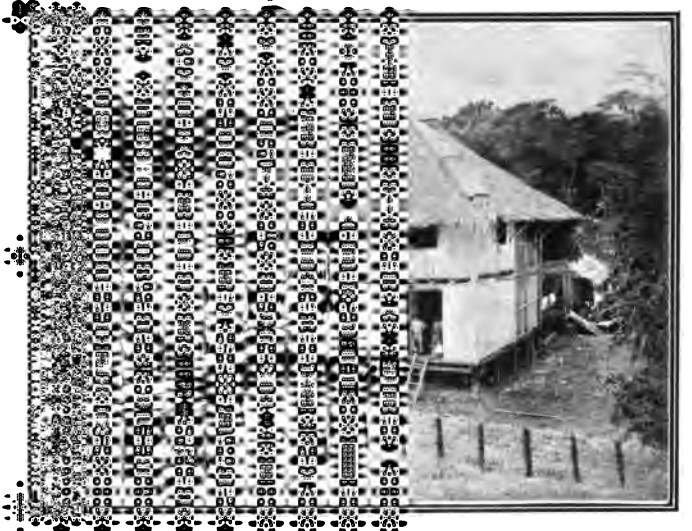
see by ascending an-
mmodore remarked
d so forth' scenery."



NTRE

AGRICULTURE ON THE AMAZON

Coming down the river we kept to the middle of the stream nearly all the way, to get the benefit of the current.

We stopped for two or three hours at Santarém, a good place to get monkeys, parrots, and curios, with which we duly loaded up. Some eighty Americans, we were told, Southern Confederates, settled here after the American civil war, and engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits. Only two or three of these now remained. One keeps a tumble-down store and another has a prosperous cattle ranch. We had a very interesting "yarn" with each of these voluntary exiles.

The same day we landed further down at the most important ranch on this part of the river, Cacaol Grande, where we were very hospitably received by the proprietor, a young Brazilian of good type and refinement. He showed us over his place, where he raises horses and cattle, cacao, beans and maize, and dries large quan-

[illegible] IN A YACHT

[illegible] We [illegible] very kindly sent [illegible] of the products [illegible] us that ranching [illegible] profitable if it were

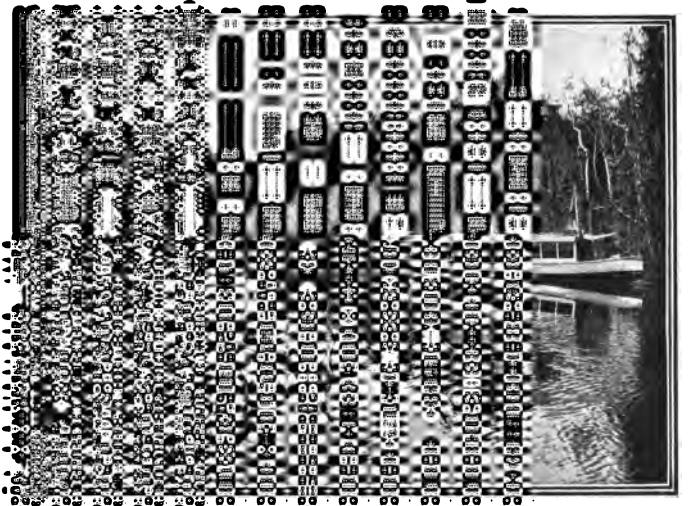
[illegible] MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS

[illegible] labor. But such [illegible] in the Amazon pre- [illegible] ence of the rubber- [illegible] We [illegible] ngly interested in [illegible] ation, but none of

[illegible] YACHT

[illegible] nely life of [illegible] wife.

[illegible] ard to the [illegible] be thickly



[illegible] ons will oc- [illegible] r thousands [illegible] rally as rash [illegible] ppen as to [illegible] nnot see in

the future the thick population and the prosperous plantations that have been prophesied. There certainly will be development on the higher lands; but on the lower Amazon, for some hundreds of miles, there seems little prospect of reclaiming the alluvial flats from the grip of the river. A great deal of this land is submerged in the high-river season, and if the forest were stripped from it, the river would eat it up like so much salt.

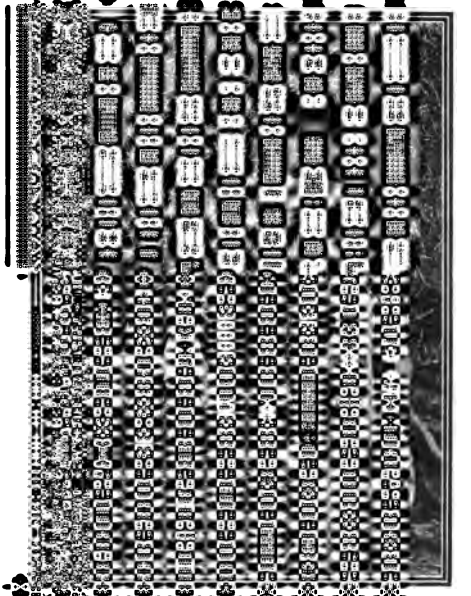
As for the upriver region, the whole population of the immense State of Amazonas does not amount to 400,000—and the habitable portion of this State is estimated to be 1,185,000 square miles in extent!

Only on the banks of the principal rivers and tributaries, and of the lakes, where rubber is to be found, is there any noticeable indication of human life. There are rivers, even close to Manáos (such as the Janapery, which is only 170 miles away), whose banks are quite uninhabited by civilized people. Thousands of square miles of the territory of the State have never been

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] en but very [illegible]

[illegible] ion to the



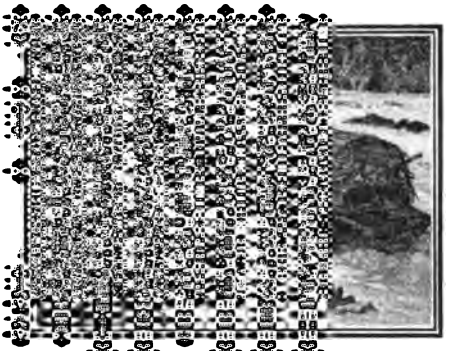
[illegible] JUNGLE

[illegible] s, the hardy [illegible] to make a [illegible]

[illegible] commerce in

[illegible] IN A YACHT

[illegible] rivers are regu- [illegible] ers from Pará or [illegible] s, where it is im- [illegible] gate, launches of [illegible] traders, who push [illegible] repidity into re- [illegible] cessible.

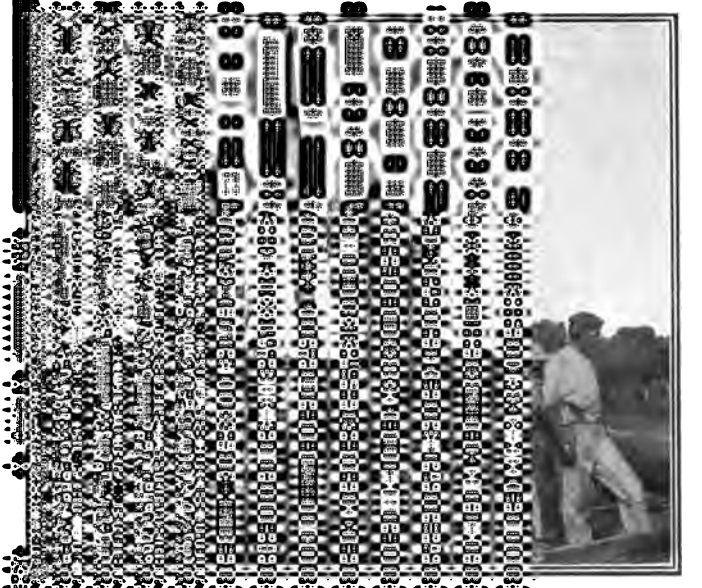


[illegible] UPPER TAPAJÓS

[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible]

[illegible] a small vil-
[illegible]s—where a

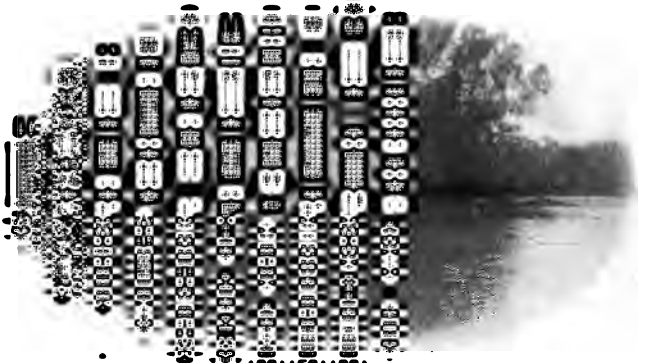


[illegible] THE AMAZON

[illegible] Amazon [illegible] telegraph, in
[illegible] concerned, was
[illegible] our course

[illegible] on the morning of [illegible]

[illegible] there very quietly, [illegible] to Souré, on the



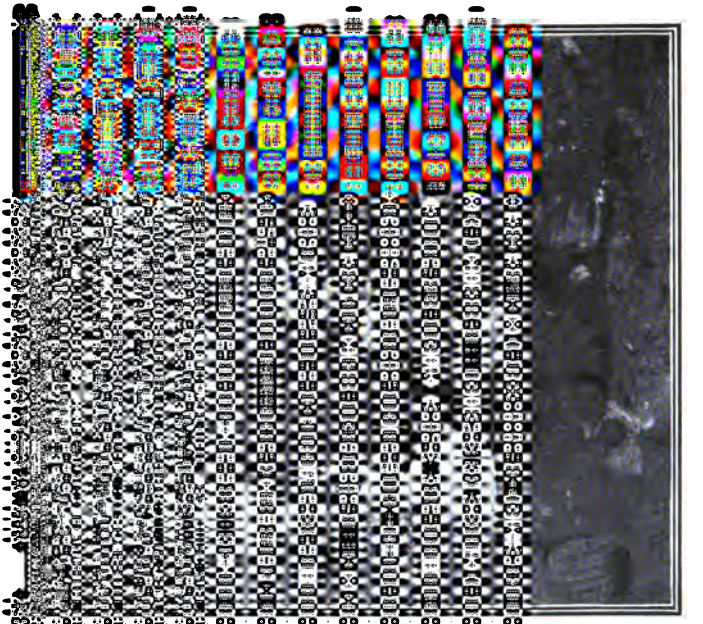
"[illegible] INTO THE RIVER"

[illegible] away, where we [illegible] went there to get [illegible] and played a couple of [illegible] was not at all lively, [illegible] sized tarpon and a [illegible] whose names I [illegible] rapid.

[illegible] more at Pará, and

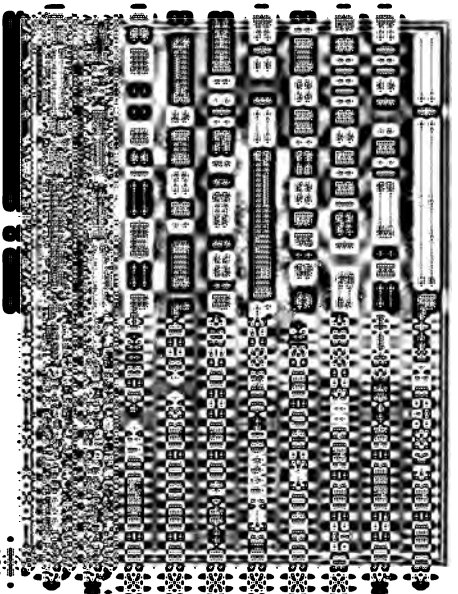
[illegible] A YACHT

[illegible] off in our [illegible] —the Island [illegible] eringueiros [illegible]

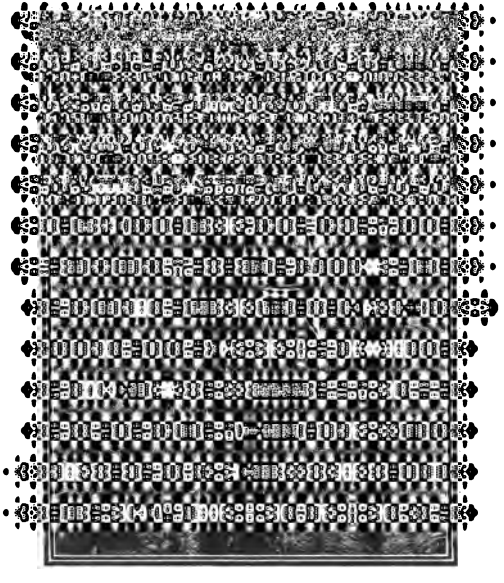


[illegible] R-SMOKING [illegible]

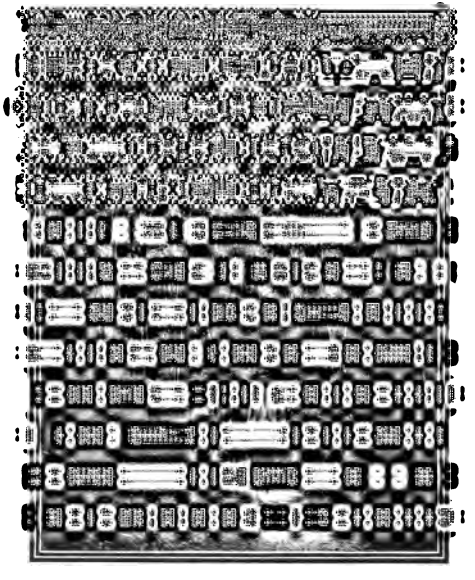
[illegible]RING



There are several trees and shrubs which yield rubber, but the principal source of the supply is the *Hevea Brasiliensis*, a tree which attains to a height of fifty or sixty feet. The coagulated milk of this tree is the crude [illegible]t, which now sells [illegible]r pound for fine [illegible]o makes incisions [illegible]ree with a small [illegible]ons attaches small



TAPPING A RUBBER TREE



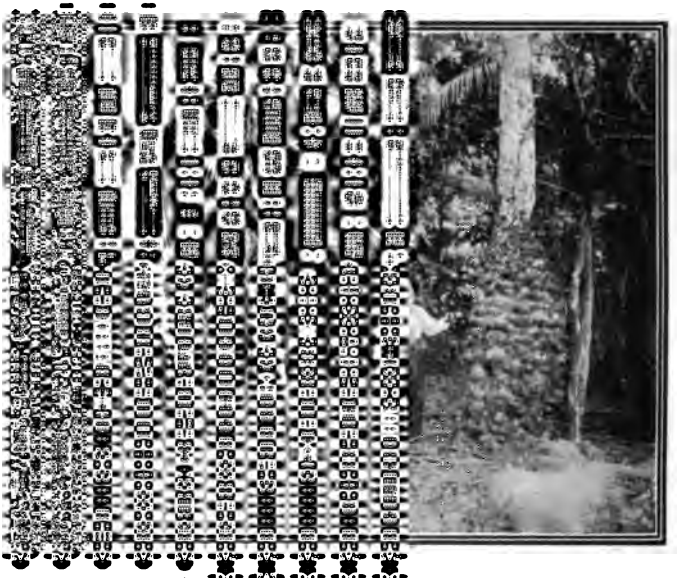
BRINGING HOME THE DAY'S YIELD OF RUBBER-MILK

tin cups. The sap, which is just like milk, oozes for about an hour, and partly fills the little cups. When the seringueiro has tapped the last of the hundred or so of trees in his charge, he returns to the first and begins collecting the rubber-milk from the little tin cups. The small pailful which he thus obtains every morning, when there is no rain, is then taken to his hut and the liquid is coagulated and cured by a process of smoking.

A fire is made of Uauassu or Urucury palm nuts, which give forth a dense, acrid smoke. Over this fire is placed an earthen cone-shaped vessel with a hole in the top, out of which the smoke escapes.

The seringueiro then takes a piece of wood, shaped like a paddle, and dips it into the milk, some of which clings to the wood. This is then held over the smoke, when much of the water in the latex evaporates, leaving a layer of brown gum on the paddle. Layer after layer is smoked on to the paddle in this way, and the operation is continued day after day, until a ball of fifty or sixty pounds is obtained. In this form the rub-

[illegible] market at Pará or [illegible] has been careful in [illegible] allowed no foreign



[illegible] TREES

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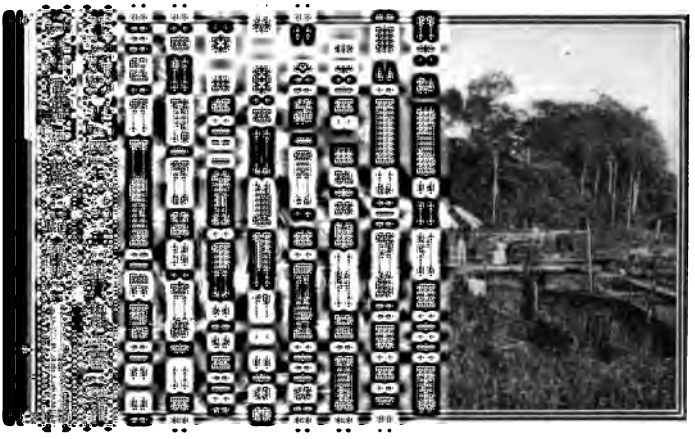

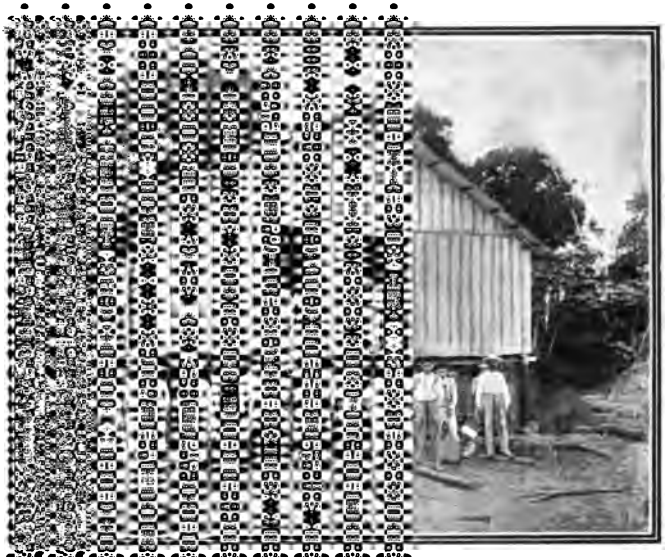

FACTORIES OF RUBBER RANCHES

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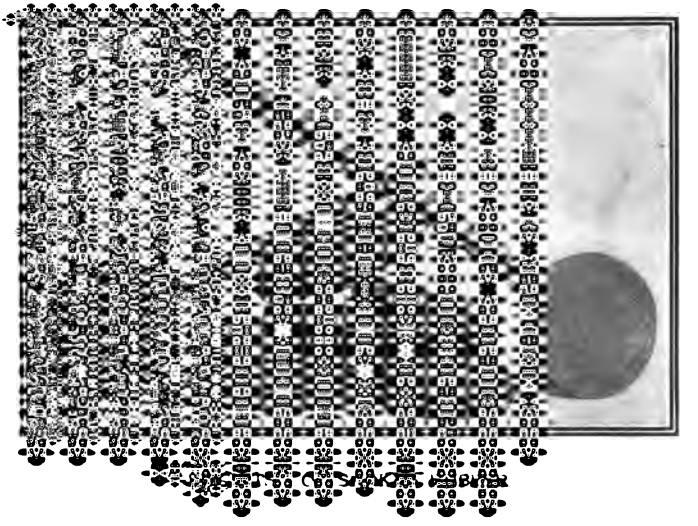
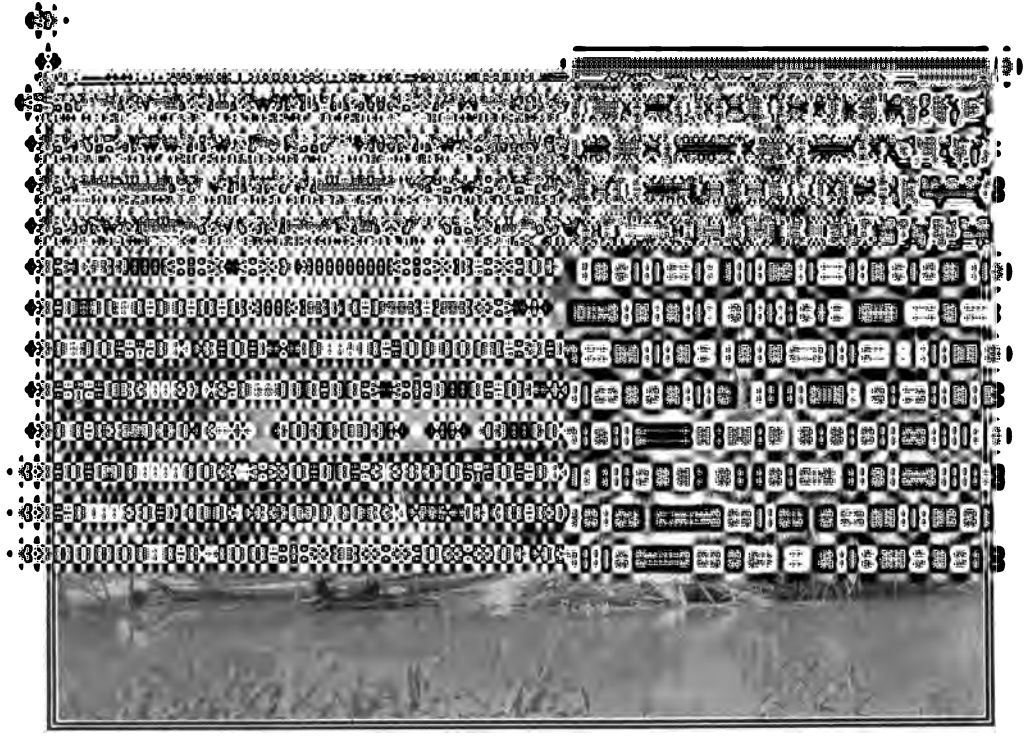


[illegible] AMAZON

[illegible] e evening of Janu- [illegible] st a month on the [illegible] ed that the greatest

[illegible] VER FOR SHIPMENT

[illegible] lous and interesting [illegible] it was; and though [illegible] d enough of it, not [illegible] sed for anything the [illegible] by the most genial



A PROVISION STORE

and liberal of hosts of seeing the wonders of the mighty stream and its amazing forests under conditions of comfort and immunity from the worst of the many trials that ordinarily beset the traveller in these regions.

We had brought with us a goodly store of fireworks, and just as we were leaving Pará these were handed over to the crew, who illuminated the yacht with them and shot a large number of fine rockets into the night as a parting salutation to the city and the river.

DEATH AND SUICIDE IN THE MENAGERIE.

THE fireworks referred to, unfortunately, were the cause of a slaughter and a suicide. Among the many live animals we had collected up the river were two pacas—a sort of small, comely-looking native pig. These two pacas were kept on deck behind the wooden grating that runs round the stern of the yacht. While the fireworks were being let off by the crew, a barrel, containing a powerful rocket which had just been ignited, capsized, or else the rocket shot out at the wrong end—no one seems to know just what happened. But at any rate, one of the poor pacas was killed. This we did not know at the time. Next evening, when we were out on the ocean, some one thought of letting the pacas out on deck for exercise. One of them came out willingly enough. The other one would not budge. But it was not mere

pig-headedness that made him stay where he was. He really had a very good reason for not stirring; he was dead. The other fellow immediately jumped up on the taffrail and commenced to walk round the extreme stern of the yacht, stretching his neck out seawards and apparently estimating the distance of the drop to the water. Whether he imagined the sea was a plain, over which he could scamper, or whether he knew it was water, and, being a swimmer, thought he could breast his way through it to his native forest, no one can tell. We could see he was contemplating a jump and we did our best to prevent him. But he took the plunge and disappeared into the ocean and the night. Poor fellow, he doubtless made a tasty supper, that evening, for some rapacious sea monster.

ALONG THE COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA

THE day after leaving Pará, January 3rd, we found ourselves steaming merrily up the Brazilian coast.

The water had lost a good deal of its yellowness, but was still of a dark olive-green—the effect of the Amazon water which is carried up by the strong current that always sets north along this coast. The sea was smooth, but there was enough roll to set the yacht swinging again. In the afternoon, we were off the coast of French Guiana, and just before sunset we sighted the famous, or infamous, *Ile du Diable*—Devil's Island—where the ill-starred Dreyfus spent four years in solitary captivity. We passed within twelve or thirteen miles of the island. As we came abreast of it, the sun sank over and behind it, enveloping it in a weird conflagration of orange and violet and light green hues, and this

effect added to the strange feelings with which we regarded the prison-island.

The next day the water had lost all trace of the yellow Amazon, and had again become a vast expanse of liquid sapphire. The sea was heavier, but the day was delightfully cool and clear.

On January 5th, the sea had gone down somewhat, but we still rolled too much for comfort. The current running with us here was so powerful that we found we were spanking along at the rate of nearly fifteen knots an hour.

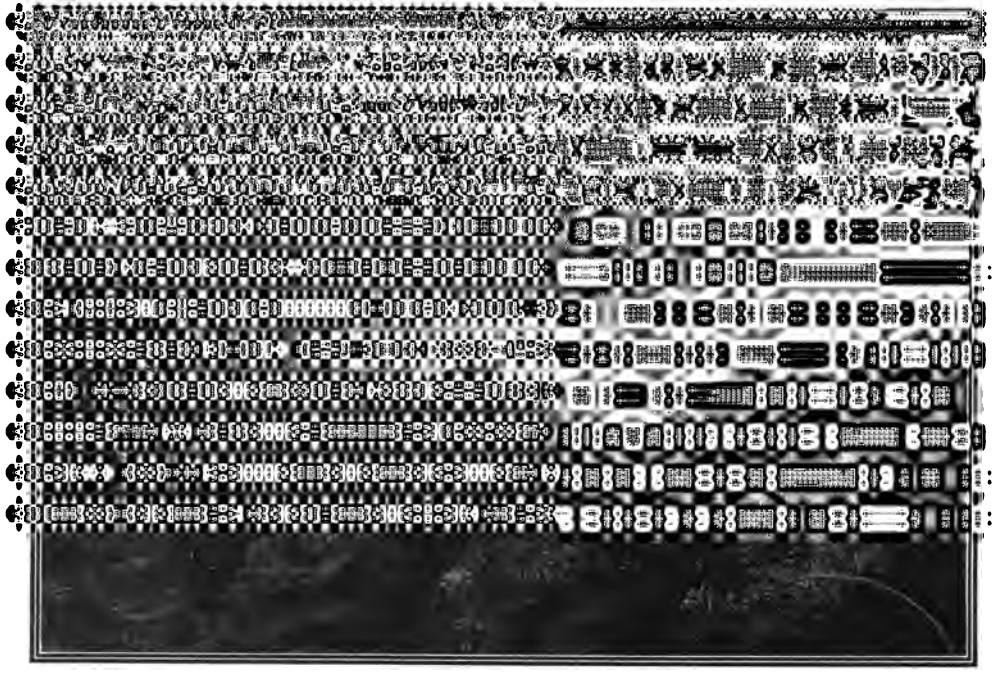
A TRUE FISH STORY

Here I must tell a fish story. It is such a remarkable fish story that if I myself had had anything to do with the catching of that fish, I shouldn't dare mention the matter. But *I* didn't catch him. Nobody did. He caught himself.

This is what happened, and how it happened.

It was the evening of January 5th, about ten o'clock. The yacht was gliding through the sea at nearly fifteen knots an hour, and rolling about

twenty-five degrees. One of the stewards was sitting in the dining-room (the dining-room of the *Virginia* is on deck, forward). He was dozing and dreaming—doubtless of the girl he left behind. Suddenly he was awakened by something swishing through the open window, over his right shoulder, close to his face. Before he could open his eyes, he heard the flop of something weighty on the floor beneath the dining-room table, and then, to his amazement, he saw the gleaming back of a good-sized, tail-flapping, all-alive-o fish. A brother steward was immediately summoned, then nearly the whole crew, and the fish was duly measured and weighed. The official report made him 2 feet 3 inches long, and gave him 3½ pounds avoirdupois. He certainly made a famous leap, to get out of the sea into that dining-room. Allowing for a possible lurch of the yacht in his direction at the moment of his jump, he still must have leaped in a curve over twenty feet long in order to clear the railing of the yacht and the passage-way between the railing and the dining-room, and to



THE COAST OF TRINIDAD

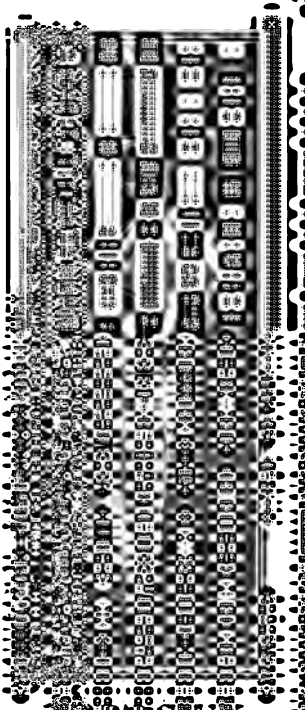
pass through the window and land under the table.

We showed our appreciation of the remarkable feat of this athletic fish by making an enjoyable meal of him the following morning. As there were at that breakfast at least one millionaire and some strange fellows, we might have sung the fish's requiem in the words of Ariel in "The Tempest"—

> "Nothing of him that doth fade
> But doth suffer a sea-change
> Into something *rich* and *strange*."

In our party was a former Fish Commissioner of the State of New York. This irrefutable authority pronounced the long-jumper to be a Spanish mackerel.

D



sixth of January was us day, the sun full ng, but so tempered cean breeze that one e in it for half-an- a time, without be- -roasted, and derive satisfaction from it pervade the fibres s being — a satisfac- ich was easily en- by the thought that York, our regular the thermometer moment was regis- zero.

the afternoon, we Island of Tobago d) and then that alled Trinidad. We

[illegible] YACHT

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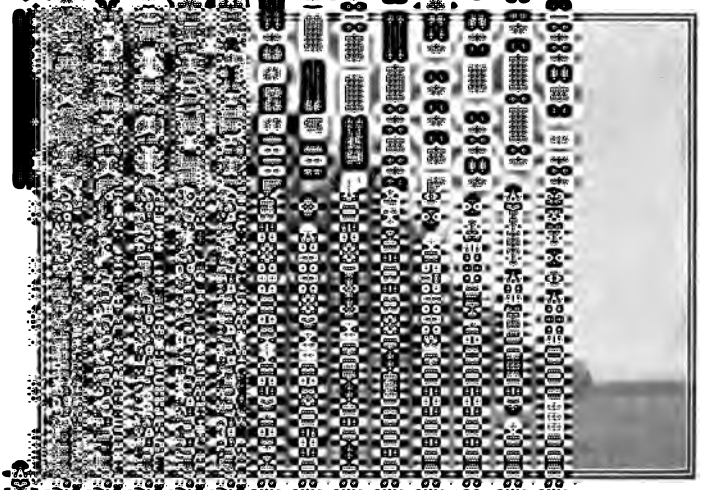

[illegible] northwest [illegible] at night, [illegible] Mouth—a [illegible] and and a [illegible] aria, and

[illegible] Spain shortly be-

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[illegible] TRINIDAD

[illegible] gentlemen and ladies [illegible] and sell us things for [illegible] nor tolerance. But [illegible] allow them to come [illegible] under a ban: we

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[illegible] A YACHT

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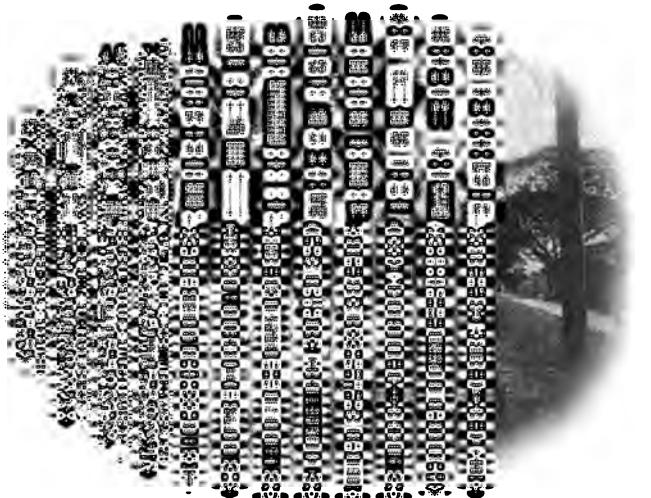

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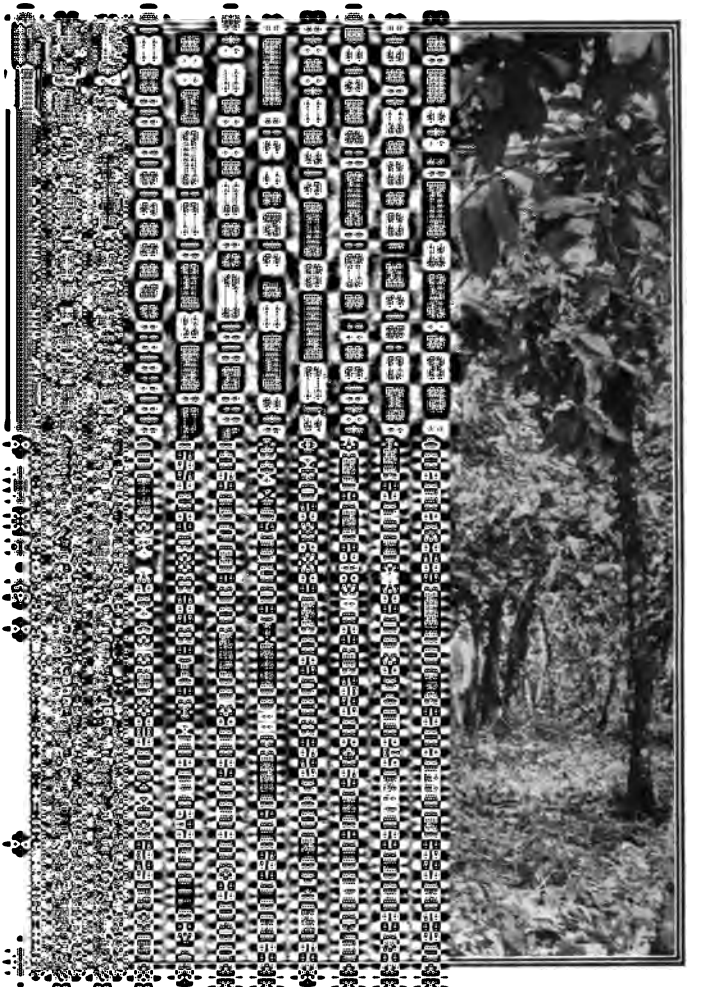
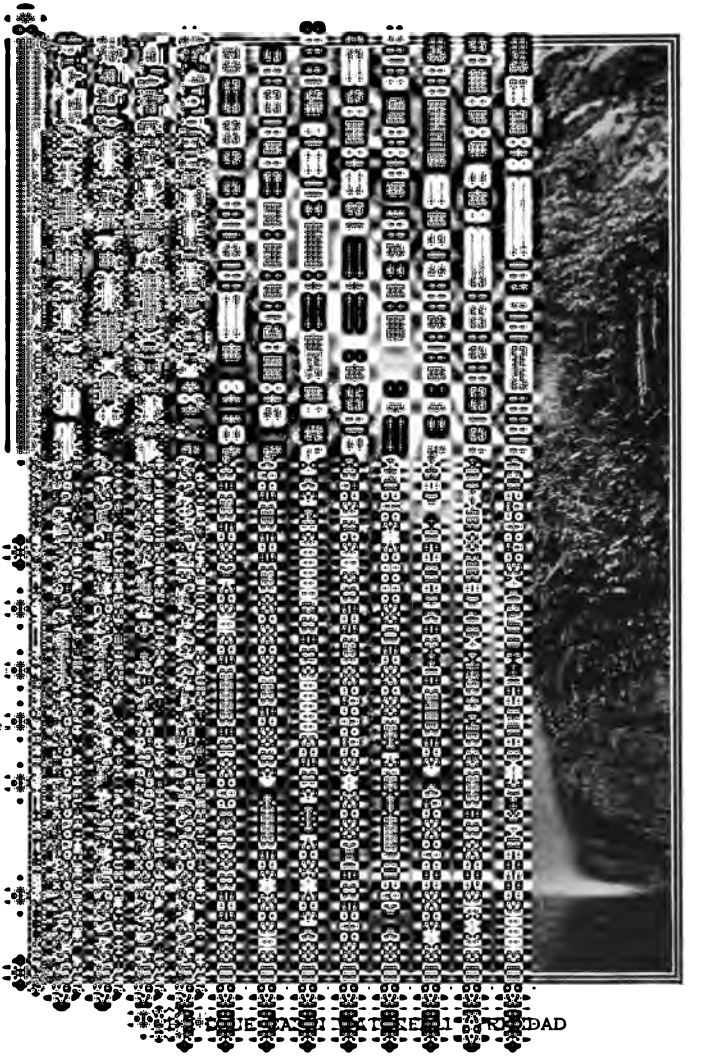


CARPENTIS, TRINIDAD



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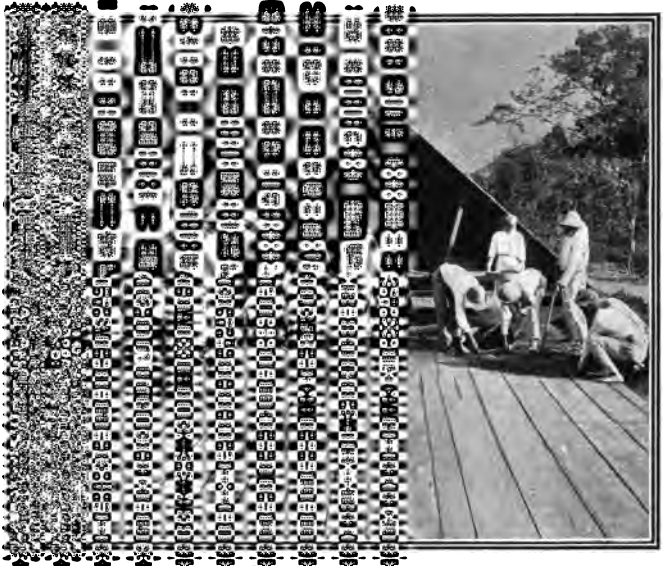
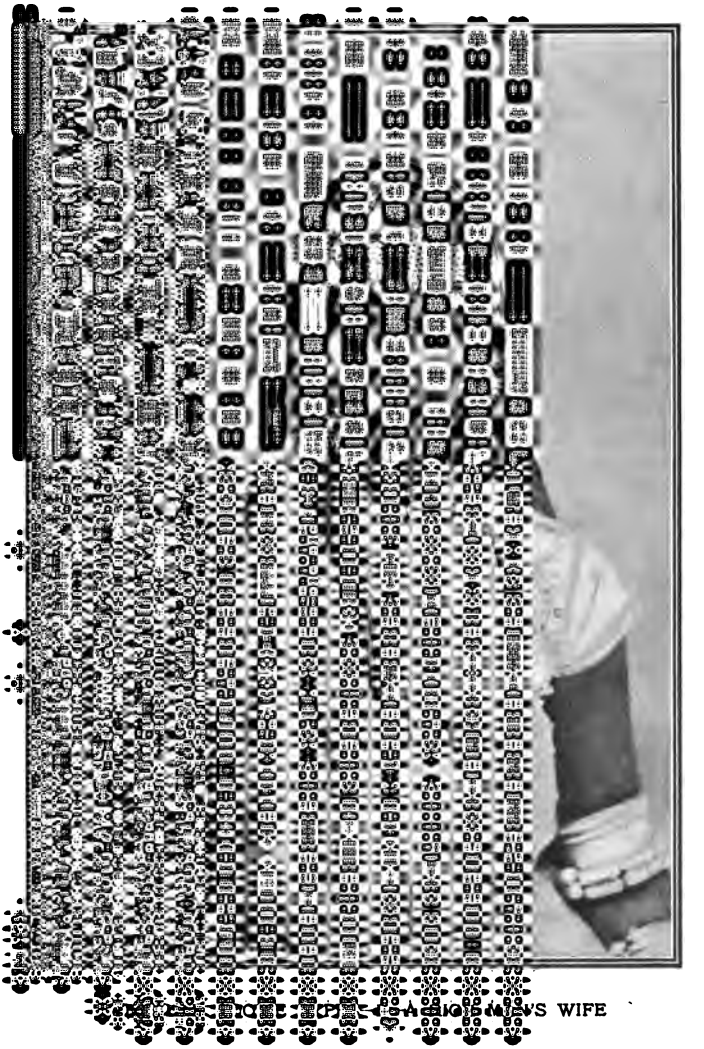


[illegible] TRINIDAD

[illegible] anding, considera- [illegible] has done so much [illegible] the world. The [illegible] sugar, fruits, and [illegible]



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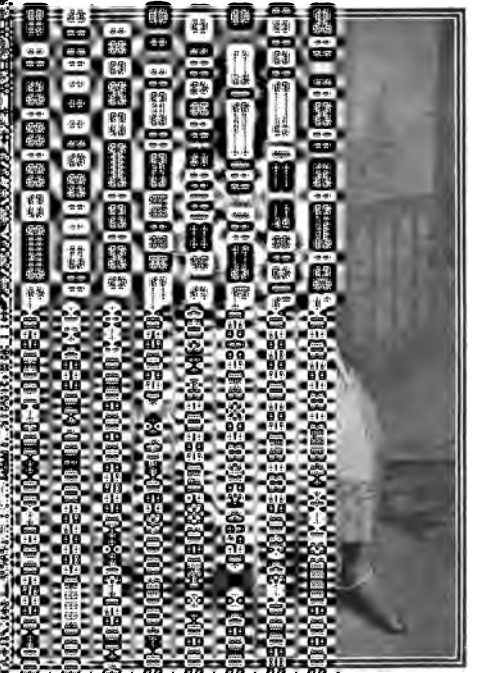


[illegible] ES—III

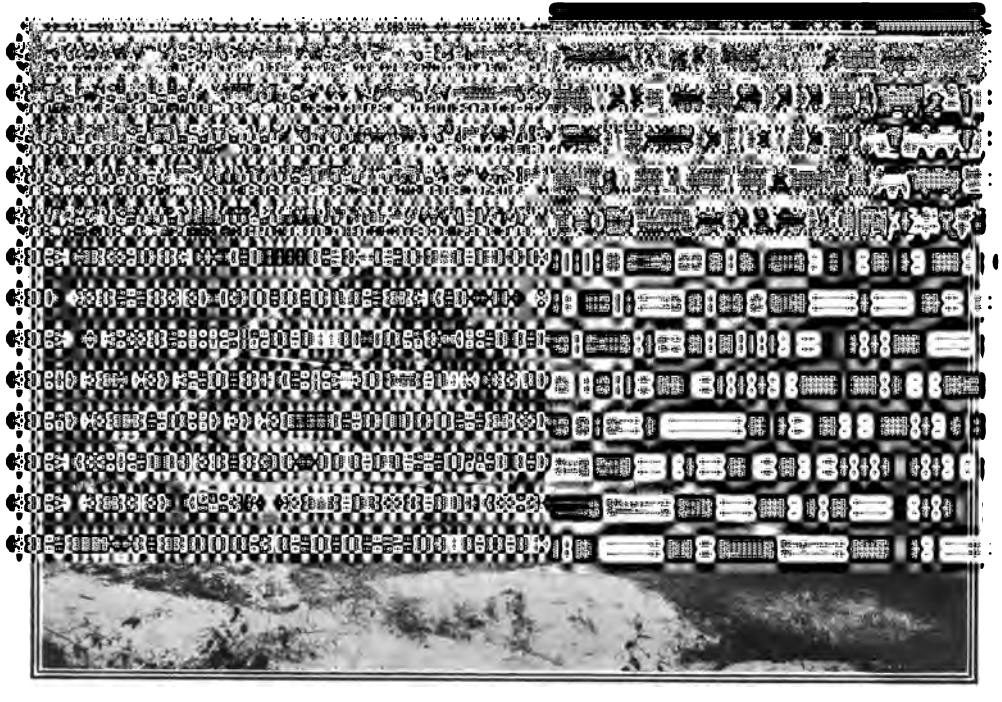
[illegible] They have

[illegible] tern form

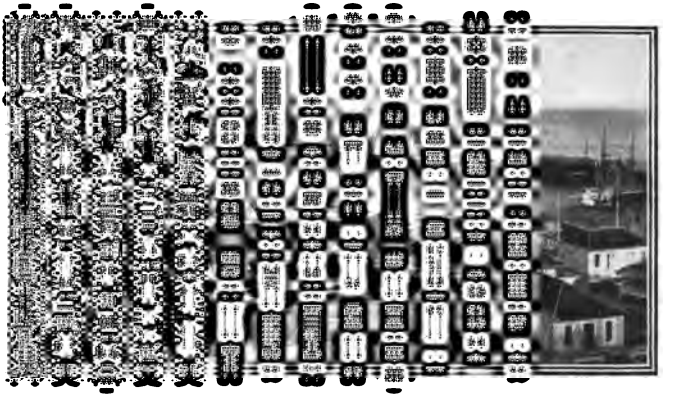
[illegible] s, and in-

[illegible] e, besides being one [illegible] prosperity, adds very much to the grace and charm and picturesqueness of the island, giving it quite an Oriental touch.

We regretfully left Port of Spain after luncheon on January 9th. Emerging from the Gulf of Paria [illegible] way of the Dragon's [illegible] a little north of west. [illegible] high-bounding seas, [illegible] powerful trade winds.



IN THE INTERIOR, TRINIDAD



[illegible]

[illegible], the chief [illegible] the scene [illegible] political and [illegible] few years. [illegible] kfast, our [illegible] he present [illegible] ys at this [illegible] f tropical [illegible] t contagi- [illegible] over the [illegible] e country, [illegible] it is only

es. The party re-
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orably, as far as
evidences of vi-
tality and prog-
ress were con-
cerned, with
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dirty, God-forsaken-
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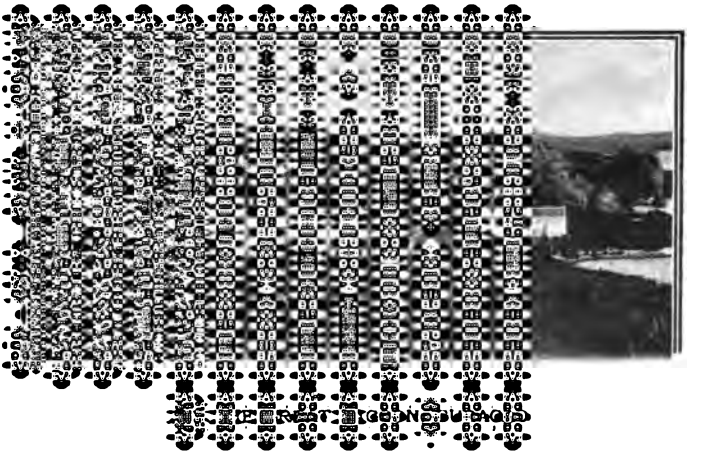

a question on this head to the living encyclopædia who was one of our party, he laughed and answered—"They take in each other's washing." But we heard it whispered around as an open secret that the island owes its prosperity, in a large measure, to the advantage it takes of its facilities for shipping contraband goods to neighboring republics with high tariffs.

Willemstad is unique as a port, having neither a custom house nor a quarantine.

We spent seven or eight hours inspecting the quaint town, enjoying the new experience of purchasing dutiless commodities, and touring the lagoon in our large launch.

A RECORD ROLL—AND OTHERS

On leaving Curaçao, just before sunset, we ran into very heavy seas. That night the yacht rolled more than at any time during the cruise. Our clinometer registered a roll of 37 degrees, and we had great difficulty in keeping in our berths. The operation of eating meals next day was of the nature of an acrobatic performance. I wish I could reproduce here a picture I have in my mind's eye of a certain respected member of the New York Yacht Club, with a couple of fried eggs in his lap and half-a-pint of coffee in his ample bosom. Yes, those were the largest rolls some of us had ever had for breakfast—much too large, in fact, for comfortable digestion.

Speaking of rolls reminds me that, the first day we were on the Amazon, someone got off a joke on our chief jokesmith. He was very fond of rolls and not unwilling to teach the cook how to get them just right (as he was always willing, and indeed almost always able, to teach anybody anything). He was therefore much concerned

when it was intimated to him that we should not have any more rolls for breakfast for three or four weeks. "Why?" he demanded; and there was in his tone a full confidence in his ability to remedy the trouble, whatever it might be, and to assure the due daily forthcoming of excellent breakfast rolls. It was then pointed out to him that there would be no rolls because we were now in calm water and the yacht would do no rolling for a month.

The joke was perhaps not a very brilliant one; but it was good fun to see the great joke-smith's expression when his question was answered and a roar of derision from the whole company greeted him. This was the only time we ever caught him napping during the cruise.

But we did have rolls on the river, all the same —and of both sorts. The day we came back to Pará from the island of Marajó, there was a high wind and the water was rough enough to make the yacht dance considerably.

JAMAICA

HEAVY seas continued to follow us during the next two days and we were very glad, at sunset on the 14th, to catch the first glimpse of the mountain-tops of Jamaica, and crawl up under the lee of this majestic island, where we could once more keep an even keel and an even temper.

We steamed gaily along the Southern coast, enjoying the balmy, starlit night, and watching with interest the changing, shadowy contours of the mountains and the gleam of an occasional light or cluster of lights near the shore or far up on the hillside. At 9 o'clock in the evening, we were off the curious hook of land that forms the fine harbor of Kingston. Here we lay to and made all sorts of signals for a pilot; but the pilots either didn't or wouldn't see or hear, and we had to lie outside all night. Early in the morning, we got into the harbor and, after a

short delay with the health officers, were permitted to land.

We were charmed with the grandiose massivity and picturesque lines of the mountains, and pleased to find ourselves in such a fine harbor among so many large and important ships. The latter, by the way, were nearly all flying the British flag. Indeed, throughout our cruise, we encountered British shipping everywhere, and it was a matter of continual remark and regret on the yacht that we seemed to be almost the only vessel carrying the stars and stripes on the vast tropical seas. We were the second one to carry them above Pará on the Amazon. Very frequently and very fervidly did certain patriotic souls among us denounce the nefarious influences and practices which have arrested and continue to arrest the development of American shipbuilding and shipping.

The city of Kingston disappointed us. It is surprisingly extensive, but we found it arid and dusty and, apparently, not very clean. Its stores and houses have an old, worn appearance, and

JAMAICA

it has but little architectural attractiveness. Trees we saw in plenty, and yet missed the ubiquitous verdure of the other island cities we had just visited. The type of Negroes who swarm in Kingston struck us as being coarser and rougher than the types of the Leeward and Windward Islands. However, we did not see Kingston at its best. It was Sunday when we landed there, and the whole city was shut up with the Puritanical rigor of an English country town.

But if Kingston is not remarkable for beauty, its environs are altogether enchanting. Some of our party, determined to make the most of the few hours we were to spend here, secured the best vehicle and the fastest pair of horses that could be had, and made a dash for the abounding glories of Nature that beckoned to us from the hills and valleys beyond the city. There, among the acclivitous gorges and tumbling cascades, we experienced the sensation of coming under the benignant spell of tropical scenery with a new note in it—the note of rug-

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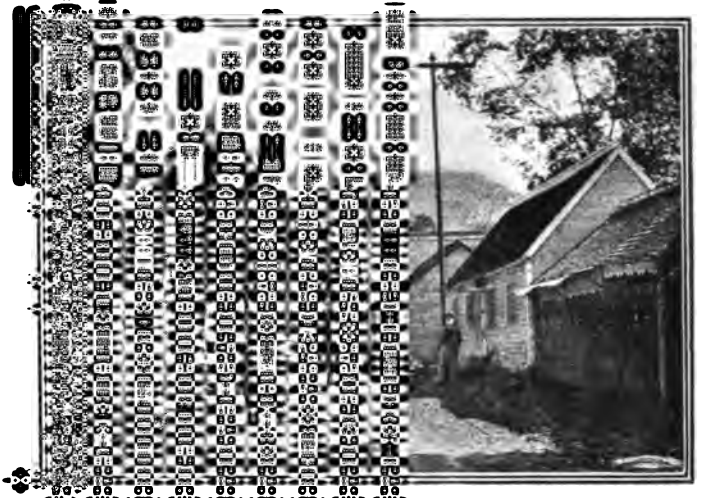
t that even the most
most unlikely-looking



AD, BLUE MOUNTAINS,

with their natural
and shrubs, groves of
antations of banana-

We went as far as the carriage-road would take us, and would fain have transferred our persons to the backs of mules, to be borne to the summer station several thousand feet higher up. But you have to have both the time and the money to do pleasant things in this festive world, and in the present case, though we did for once possess the price, the necessary hours were not at our disposal; for the briny deep was calling, calling to the Commodore, and the Commodore was calling, calling to the rest of us.

But Jamaica was another land that we left with a feeling of regret, with a sense that we were abandoning, perhaps for ever, a little world of scarcely tasted delights, of uninvestigated joys.

THE DRY TORTUGAS

A LONG DETOUR FOR SOME FISHING

We were piloted out of the harbor in the late afternoon, and, after a couple of hours, again ran into heavy seas, which continued to knock us about wofully for nearly three days, except during a few hours when we were running along under the lee of the southwest coast of Cuba.

We were bound for the Dry Tortugas, a group of coral reefs, mere spots on the ocean, the location of an old United States fort. Our object in going to this place was to try the fishing. An old friend of our host's had repeatedly stated to him that the fishing there was the most varied and exciting to be had anywhere. Now, all degrees of scepticism are permissible in relation to other men's fish stories, and our host was not going to let such a little matter as the fact that the Dry Tortugas lay four or five hundred miles off his course deter him from going there to find out for himself whether his friend had told the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the

truth about that fishing. So thither we went, and gladly, too; for not everyone can say he has been to the Dry Tortugas.

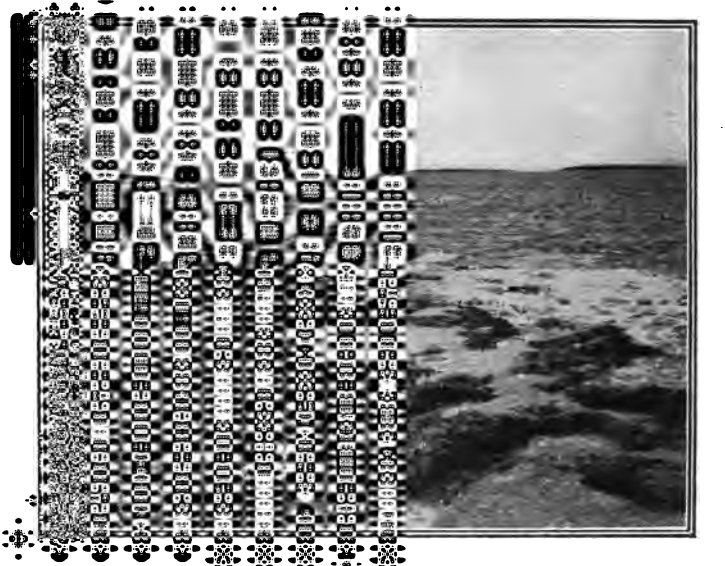
A FEAT IN NAVIGATION

In steering for these lonely little keys, we executed quite a remarkable piece of navigation. Nobody on the yacht had ever been there before. The current in these waters is strong and tricky, unstable and hard to calculate. The morning of the day we were to arrive at the fort was very cloudy and misty, and we could get no sun observation. Soon after midday, the Commodore went on the bridge and asked one of the officers (two of whom were peering vainly through their binoculars into the mist) how far away he supposed we were.

"According to our reckoning," was the reply, "we're *there:* we've just arrived. But we can't see anything."

Thereupon the order "Half-speed ahead" was telegraphed to the engine room.

[illegible] to lift, and five or [illegible] a mile away and di- [illegible] bow, the lighthouse



[illegible] BAHAMA KEYS

[illegible] to spring up out of [illegible] ky.

[illegible] pretty good reckon of [illegible] dore to the officers. [illegible]

A DAY'S SPORT

The rest of that day was misty and disagreeable, but the following day was as perfect as anything one could wish or dream in the way of weather.

We organized a fishing expedition and, duly guided by expert fishermen of the Keys, went in a couple of boats to the outer ledge of the coral bank three or four miles away from our anchorage. There we had very good sport, landing exactly fifty good-sized fish, mostly grouper, merchant-fish, hog-fish, and yellow-tail. Unfortunately it was not the right season for tarpon. Our host admitted that there certainly were some fish on those coral ledges, but he can't quite make up his mind even now whether his friend told him the whole truth and nothing more than the truth on this piscatorial subject.

THE FIFTY-POUND FISH WE DIDN'T CATCH

An amusing incident occurred in connection with our fishing preoccupations here. And (as in the case of the fish story I have told some pages back) for the reason that I myself did not catch the fish in question—indeed, I was perhaps mainly, though inadvertently, instrumental in preventing his being caught—in relating it, I can ask my readers not to call or even to think me a fish liar. At the breakfast table on the morning of the excursion just referred to, the conversation was distinctly—I was going to say fishy, but that is an adjective of too many meanings, natural and acquired—so I will say, the conversation turned mainly on the topic of fish and fishing. We all told (and some of us, I think, really believed what we related) of the fish we had caught, of the fish we had almost caught, of the fish we ought to have caught, of the fish we would yet catch, and of the fish the other fellow couldn't catch. When we had fully

expressed our souls in this connection, an old fisherman of our party (a fisher of men, too!) lifted up his voice and spake in this wise :

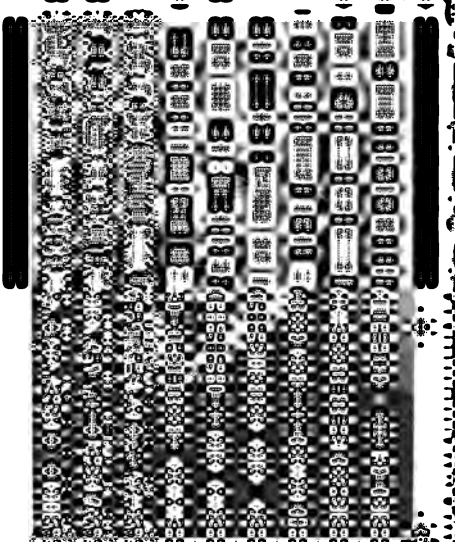
"Look here, boys. Here's a sporting offer for you. We'll be in Havana in a day or two, and Havana is a place where you can spend all the money you can lay hands on. Now I'll give you a chance to earn easy pocket money for use in that estimable city. I'll give ten cents a pound for every fish or fishes weighing individually more than fifty pounds that any of you may catch and bring to me during our stay here."

The offer was received with loud acclamation, and we went off with added enthusiasm to our day's labor of love—of fish-love. Our hopes were raised high when, on our way to the outer ledge, we saw sticking out of the water for an instant what we took to be the fore-arm or the hind-leg of a species of sea-monster that perambulates in these parts. The day before, we had been entertained by tales told us at the fort of the great size and prodigious strength of these monsters.

We had been assured that, on a certain occasion, one of them had picked up the anchor of a vessel and swum off with it and the vessel for several miles. We began to speculate how much this fellow that we now saw, if he were really of this species, would weigh, and how much pocket-money for Havana he would run into at ten cents a pound; also, as to who should get the money, or whether it ought to be divided. Some one suggested that the maker of the offer (who had stayed on the yacht with the fifth volume of a Portuguese novel) might contend that this was not a fish—and we nearly threw the fellow overboard for thinking such thoughts. He was a plump young Yale graduate, and would have added about 180 pounds to the weight of that monster, or say, $18 to the value thereof; so that we should not have been without justification for feeding him to the big ugly thing. But we reflected that he (the young man) might some day have a wife and family, and we remembered that he was a natural wit, and so we abstained from sacrificing him. We

waited about patiently for the monster to indicate his presence again, but alas! he showed up nevermore.

Later in the day, our high hopes began to sink somewhat, as we realized that it takes quite a large fish to weigh fifty pounds. We were encouraged, however, on learning that there were plenty of sharks in the neighborhood, and we determined to make a bold bid that evening for a good sized member of this unprepossessing tribe. So we put out from the stern of the yacht a couple of very strong lines with large steel hooks attractively baited. The whole crew had got wind of the ten cents a pound offer, and those lines over the stern were glanced at from time to time by many a pair of eager eyes. It was noticed that X. did not perform on the pianola that evening; that Y. gave up developing photographs; and that Z. omitted his usual after-dinner game of solitaire. The crew wanted the money for the money's sake; the rest of us wanted the fun of making the donor pay heavily for his rash offer.



as heard off the hole population and crew—had thered on the ter-deck, as ough they had en summoned ere by a fire-rm. Every man-k aboard knew at a shark, weigh-g perhaps a hun-red-weight or two ver the prescribed ty pounds, had oked himself. he chief officer ok command and e. Two of us of men, who had n the sixth vol- and paled visibly his five days'

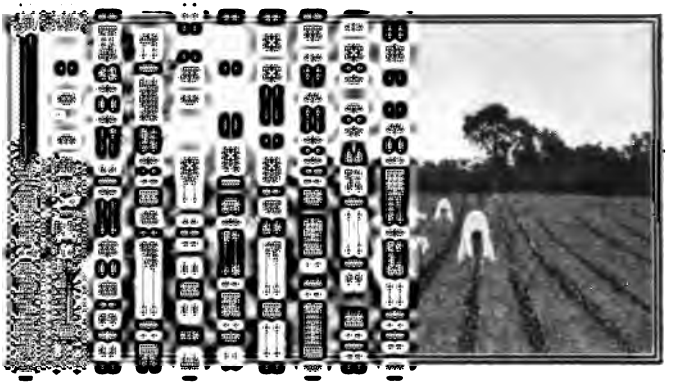
beard. Thrice the shark was hauled to the surface. Some said he was 15 feet long; some said he was 13 feet; as I hope for salvation, I will again be truthful—I believe he measured about 9 feet 6 inches. The second time he came up, one of the men who had rushed for rifles was there to receive him. Why should I be modest? It was my noble self. A bullet in the neck persuaded the shark to go below again and he nearly took two able seamen with him in his rapid-transit movement downwards. Quite a lot of line was slowly played out, and we began to fear he would take all we had, when he ceased pulling, and we were able gradually to wind him back again. At his third appearance on the surface, he received two more bullets from the Winchester of the rifleman aforesaid, the second of which drew a spurt of blood. Then came dire catastrophe. The last shot had just made its mark, when the crack of another gun split my right eardrum and I felt a cold rifle-barrel on my right cheek. The valiant Q. (I won't give him away altogether) had arrived with

his fear-inspiring 38 calibre, and leaning its barrel confidingly on my shoulder, had sent *his* bullet, too, to do its billet. The billet of that bullet and the undesired blowing-off of my right ear came very nearly being one and the same thing. At that instant the line in the hands of the able seamen parted, and the shark disappeared with the short end of it. A howl of rage and despair went up from forty throats, and imprecations deep and loud were flung at the valiant Q. He was accused of having missed the shark and cut the line with his bullet! Poor Q.! his life was not worth living for the next day or two. Personally, I don't believe he was guilty of the crime of which he was accused. As a competitor with him for the honor of doing that shark to death, and as one utterly without prejudice, I am bound to say I am of opinion that Q.'s bullet did not touch the line at all. True, it did not enter the shark's head, for which it was aimed, but I could swear it nevertheles *did* hit the animal, very hard—in the tail! The fact was that the third bullet the shark received, the one

that brought blood, tickled him in such a sensitive spot that he gave a violent lunge and twist and simply snapped the line.

While everyone was unjustly villifying Q., I caught a glimpse of the gentleman who had offered the prize-money. He was doubled up in a very convulsion of diabolical merriment. He was having the time of his life—that is to say, one of the times of his life. (He has had others, being built that way.)

We set more lines, thick rope lines, that night, and in the small hours of the morning another big shark hooked himself. Two of the watch played him for a minute or two, but he snapped the copper wire with which the hook was fastened to the line and went off, doubtless with the bait pinned to the lining of his alimentary canal. Thus vanished our hopes of catching a fifty-pound fish in the sunny waters of the Dry Tortugas. "Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher—."



HAVANA

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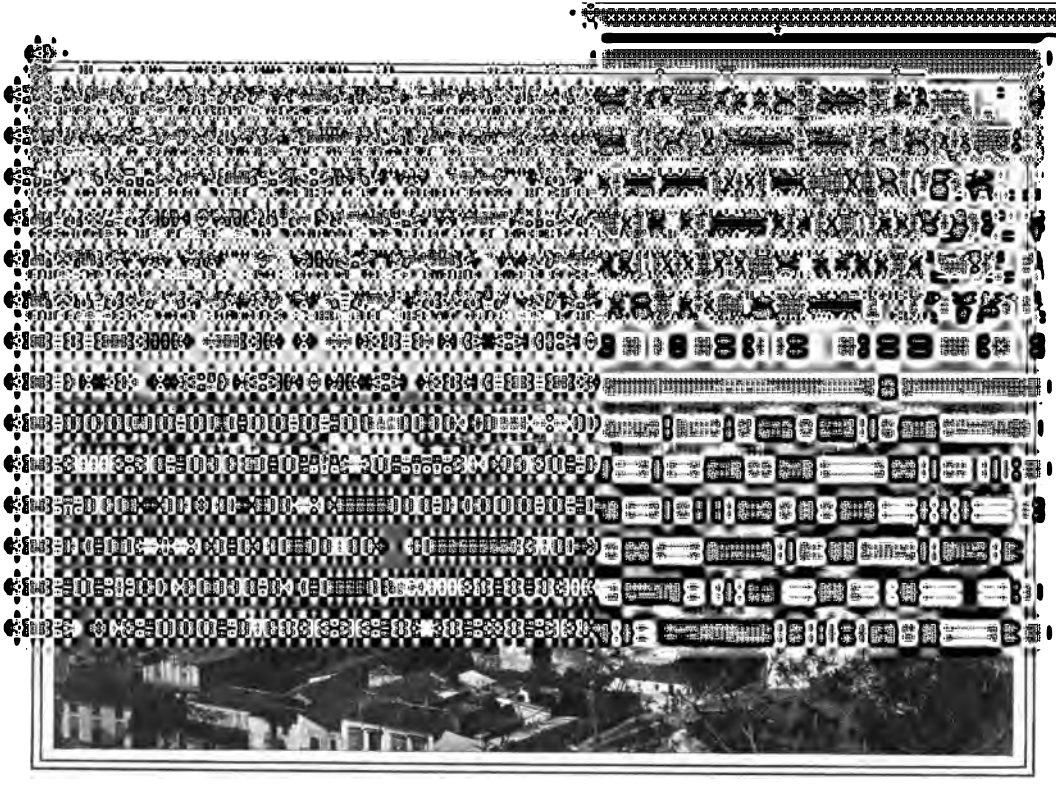
[illegible] be a city which has [illegible] recent years. It is [illegible] Havana, with its fine [illegible] picturesque old build- [illegible] edifices and villas,



HAVANA, CUBA

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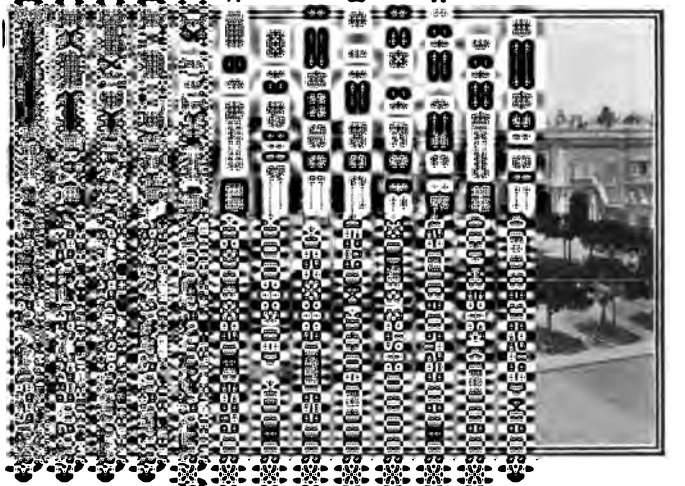

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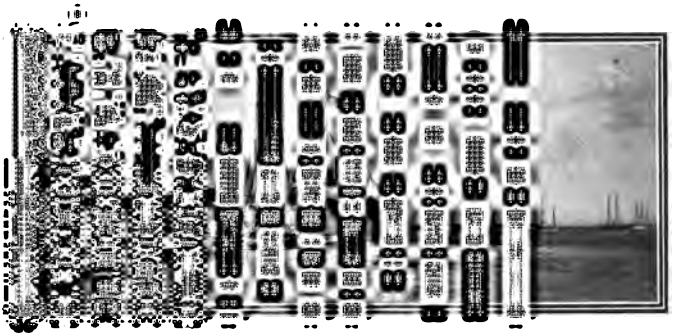

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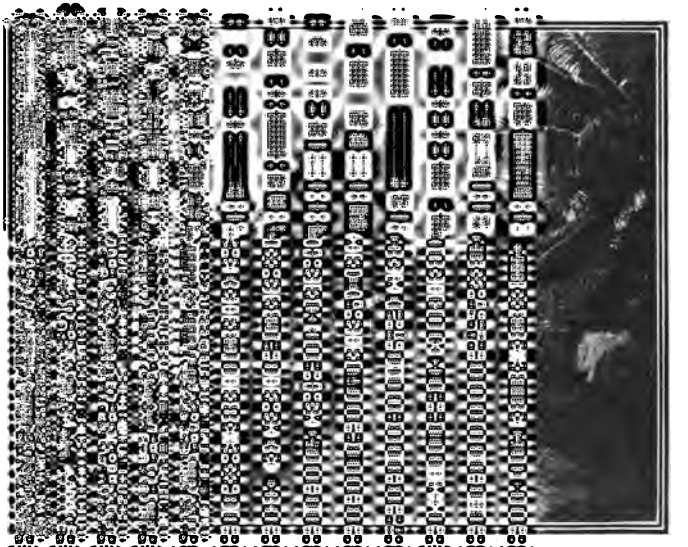

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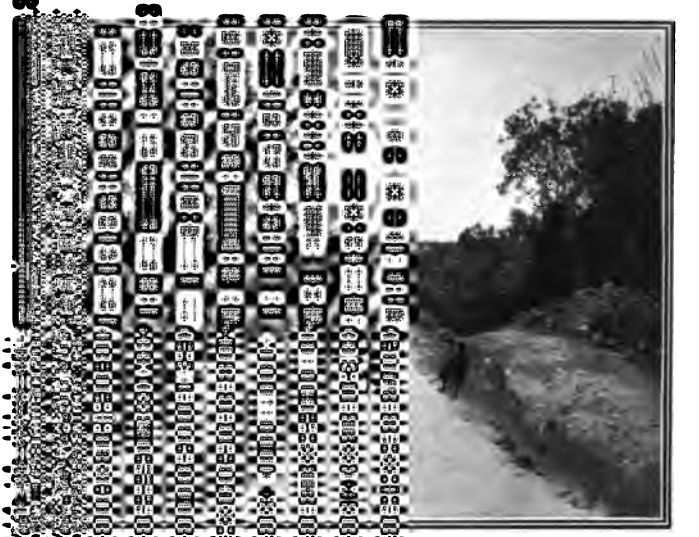

A [illegible] NASSAU

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[illegible] A YACHT

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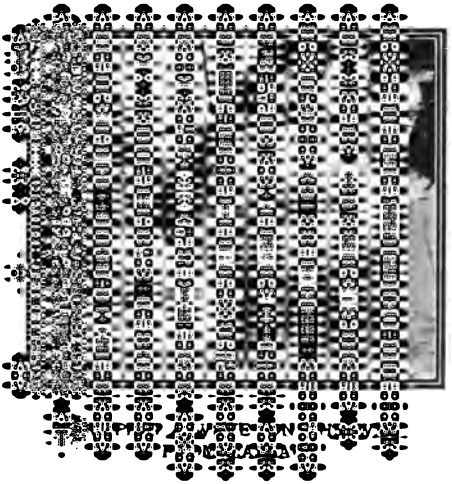
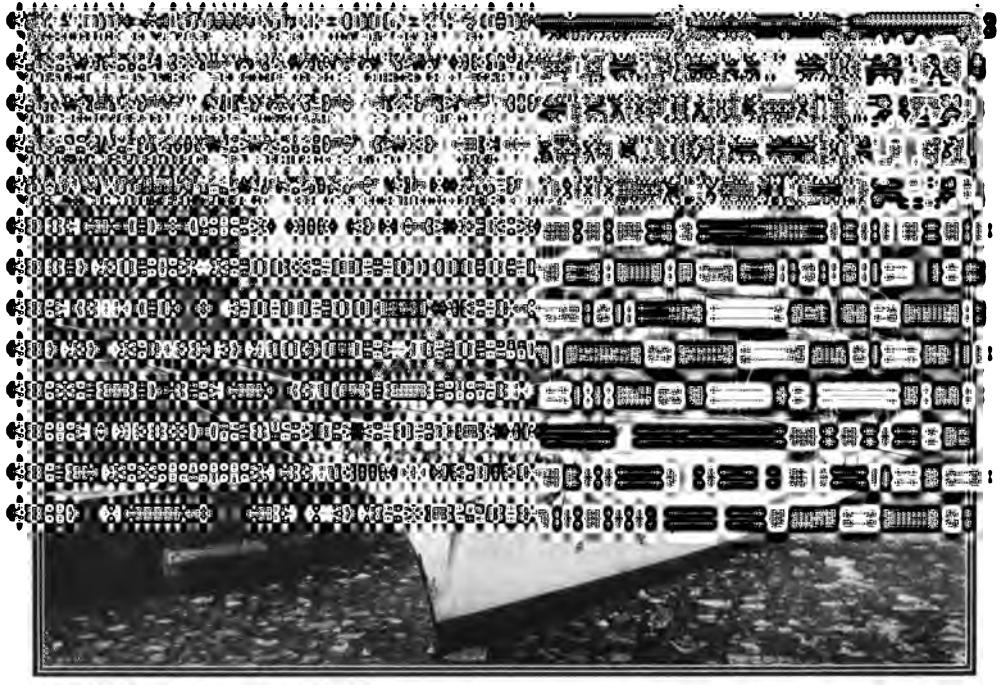


BACK TO "LITTLE OLD NEW YORK"

THEN for a couple of days we had such weather as would make a crew of angels use very frequent and forceful cuss words. Even the Commodore said he didn't like it. Naturally, we expected all sorts of trouble off Cape Hatteras. But, curiously enough, when we got there, the sea was as smooth as—as Standard oil, and it remained so until we reached the packed ice-floes of New York harbor in the small hours of the morning of January 30th.

We had sailed just short of 10,000 miles, and had been absent 76 days.

Leaving the yacht with all one's effects, after she had been our floor and our roof, our bed and our board for so many weeks, was like breaking up one's happy home. But the welcoming embrace of dear relations, the warm hand-clasps of close friends, the brightness and cheer of the big theatres, the new volumes at the book-stores,



THE HEROINE OF THIS STORY—ON THE DAY OF THE RETURN HOME

the freshness of old familiar scenes, the grace of the pretty forms and faces that one encountered everywhere, and the oyster-stews that were waiting for one in the middle Fifth Avenue neighborhood, were compensations not to be despised. The best part of going away is coming back.

O, but it was a great trip!

"I hear you went on that Amazon cruise," said a sportsman acquaintance of mine soon after our return.

I admitted the soft impeachment.

"Lucky dog!" he commented. "Why, that was a thousand to one chance!"

He was right. That's about what it was.

Not one, I think, of the ten guests who accompanied Commodore Benedict over those ten thousand miles, has any lively hope of ever being able to set out on a more interesting, a more uncommon, or a more wonderful voyage.

1642

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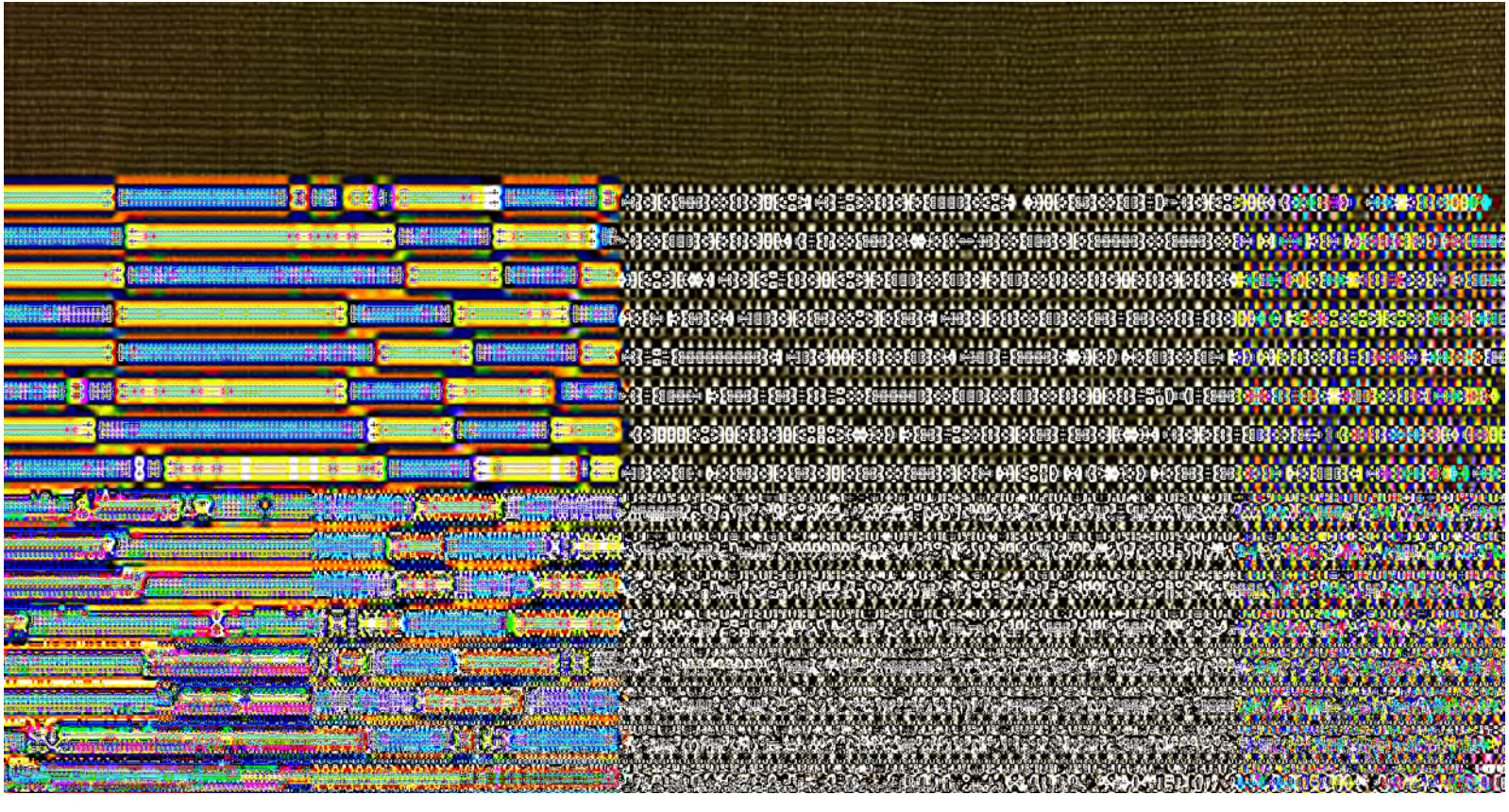
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